

INSIDE THE TABLOID **NETWORK+** MAKE FRIENDS WITH ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE





ESSAY PAGE 18

The surf and turf solution

Deals on fish quotas and beef could herald a breakthrough in Europe

Sarah Helm Anthony Bevins Political Editor

The European Commission will today offer Britain an outline deal to solve the problem of fish quota-hopping, opening the way for the most important political breakthrough vet in the new Government's relations with Europe.

Government sources also bope that a deal can be reached by the summer to end the ban on some UK heef exports. While there is extreme caution on beef, because expectations have so ofteo beeo raised and dashed before - not least by John Major after last year's Florence summit - it is now hoped that a start can at long last be made with beef exports from Northern Ireland. Emma Bonino, the fisheries

commissioner, is to hold talks in Brussels today with Jack Cunningham, the Secretary of State for Agriculture, and Elliot Morley, fisheries minister, and will propose ways of limiting the oumber of quota-hoppers.
The offer of a deal on quo-

ta-hopping could help smooth the way to a deal wider negotiations oo European Union reform, which come to a head this week, as concerted attempts are made to finalise the Amsterdam

treaty, to be signed next mouth.
Today Robin Cook, the Foreign Secretary, holds his hist meeting with European partners, in The Hague, to discuss the treaty, and, on Friday, Tony Blair meets European heads of



in the Dutch town of Noordwijk. According to Commission sources in Brussels, the proposals on quota-hopping centre on ways of ensuring that boat owners, with a license to fish the British quota, must have a conocction with a loca Dutch-owned and crewed, hav-

men. Mrs Bonino is expected to suggest arrangements under which every boat should land a certain amount of fish at a British port

The offer is also expected to propose that a proportion of the gioo. About 150 large UK lish. Other proposals for link-fishing vessels are Spanish and ing boats to a British locality will ing been bought, often many

If accepted the deal could

of quota licenses and boats offer. "We will examine all sugheld by Saish and Dutch fishermen go back to British fishermen. In return, Ms Bonino hopes that the Government will agree to enforce cuts in fish stocks by up to 30 per cent, the

level set in the latest E conservation plan. There were indications yesand Mr Morley will look

with interest," said a fisheries spokesman.

Commission officials say hopes of a deal are high, due to the new reasonable tone being adopted by Labour ministers oo the fishing question. rope in general.

However, it remains unclear terday that Mr Cunningham . whether the Commission offer will go far enough for the Gov-

ly. Britain may still have to seek a change in EU law, during the Amsterdam treaty negotiations, to ensure the proposed restrictions on foreign fishermen cannot be overturned by the European Court as a breach of

EU rules on free movement of

people and capital. Hostilities over quota happing during the previous Conservative Government caused as

tions with Europe as the beef war. Mr Major threatened to veto the Amsterdam treaty unless the entire practice of quota hopping was made illegal. under EU law.

Since taking office Labour has adopted an entirely new ap proach, dropping the threat to veto the Amsterdam treaty and saying the problems of quotahopping were exacerbated by the actions of the previous govHow now, brown cow? The Prime Minister makes a new friend yesterday, as the Government hoped for a resolution of the lengthy dispute over the Com Fisheries Policy, and an end to the EU-wide export ban on British beef appeared closer than ever Photograph: Peter Macdiarmid

ernment, which restricted British fishermen from claiming generous subsidies from Brussels to pay- off old vessels.

The European Commission has always accepted the fact that foreign vessels can take up to 46 per cent of the British qunta of species such as hake and plaice makes a nonsense of the EU policy of national fish quotas.

A solution to the BSE-related beef ban, as well as fisheries, would create an enormous boost to the standing of the new Government - hard evidence that new Labour goodwill can work wonders, while Mr Major's Euro-sceptic approach jammed the works. One well-placed Government source has told The Independent it is possible that the logiam could be broken as soon as next month, with Northern Ireland providing the first link in a chain reaction that could then move oo to take in

some Scottish berds. While that was always expected to be the case, because of Ulster's computerised system of tracking its cattle, the break-through had not been on the table wheo the Conservatives left office earlier this month.

That is what is oow being sought by Mr Cunningham. and Labour sources are hopeful of that breakthrough by the time the Commons breaks for the summer.

Honeymoon is over, page 13



Daughter of the night forces Howard to meet his Nemesis

Nemesis waddled into the Chamber and parked her black bag on the floor. There she sat patiently for over an hour, peering inside an orange folder from time to time, or consulting her electronic pager. Twice she shifted along the bench, both times ensuring that she was sitting directly behind the man she was stalking. Nervous Conservatives pointed at her and

giggled. In classical mythology Neme-sis (grand-daughter of Chaos, daughter of Night, and sister of Blame, Woe and Fate), was supposed to have had about her a touch of Aphrodite, and to have carried an apple and the branch of a tree. This one was not so favoured in terms of looks, and would not have suited a single bit of wispy gauze at groin level. Instead her un-fashionable cross glinted against her white blouse, and her jacket in the violent blue and green tartan of the Clan Widdecombe, clashed horribly with the decor.

But she was about to undergo a transformation, and most people present already knew it. The butt of popular humour was to become the vehicle of popular retribution.

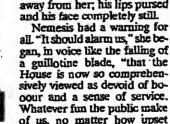
The formalities of debate had been observed. A blast from the past called David Maclean (the man who once opined that all drunken beggars were Scottish) had attacked the new government by praising his own defunct one, and



DAVID AARONOVITCH

Jack Straw - dismissing this air-ily - had outlined 100 horrible things that would happen to wicked juveniles under Labour. Then hush fell, as Nemesis

was called. Two rows in front of her the man who had once - and for years - wielded immense power over prisoner and



of us, no matter how upset they may be by our decisions it is essential for there to be an underlying view that Members of the House are just, bonourable

and truthful." But something had happened to make this impossible; and that something had happened on her watch. When she had worked with the former Home



Revenge: Ann Widdecombe addressing the Commons yesterday

away from her; his lips pursed Secretary (her "Right Hon-and his face completely still. ourable and Learned Friend") and his face completely still. Nemesis had a warning for he had misled the House of all. "It should alarm us," she be-gan, in voice like the falling of Commons. Nat lied, not fibbed, not told a direct falsehood, but guillotine blade, "that the done everything possible to House is now so comprehenconceal his true actions in the sively viewed as devoid of bomatter of Mr Derek Lewis and oour and a sense of service. the governor of Parkhurst

> And he had got away with it because he "has an exquisite way with words." The meaning was nothing, the effect every-

Mr Howard (still staring straight ahead) had behaved in this way because his "first reaction to attack is denial and refuge in semantic prestidigi-tation." Semantic prestidigitation! What an epitaph on a modern political career! If there was any one reason why the Tury benches contained such a pitifully small number of MPs, it was because of the voters feelings about years of "semantic prestidigitation". Or cynicism,

as it is also known. Agamemnon, laid low by an earlier Nemesis, recognised how the Greeks' "arrogant grandeur had made them forgetful of the common cause". Well, tartan will serve as well as gauze to make that point. Yesterday something of the Night certainly touched Mr Howard - the pudgy but righteous hand of Nemesis, the daughter of Night. And the whole of politics shuddered.

Brown orders Treasury to open its books Arithony Bevins

Diane Coyle Economics Editor

Treasury forecasts are to be opened up to independent scrutiny by the National Audit Office, with a clear hint of sus-

picinn that the books were cooked by the Tories. . Gordon Brown, the Chan-

cellor of the Exchequer, will announce the unprecedented, independent audit of his pre-decessor's accounts in the Commons today, and MPs will receive a direct report from Sir John Bourn, the Comptroller and Auditor General, in good

time for the summer Budget. The National Audit Office, Parliament's independent financial watchdog, replaced the centuries-old Exchequer and Audit Department in 1983, with beefed-up powers under a Comptroller whose independence was reinforced by Statute. In 1995, his office audited public funds of more than £500bn: with a standing order to monitor the efficiency and effectiveness, as well as the propriety, of public spending.

But the new role to be picked up by Sir John today marks an historic first - the ability to question the Treasury's most sensitive political assumptions on issues like economic growth. A Treasury source told The Howardscuppered, page 9 Independent last night that Sir

Juhn had been asked to ques-tion a number of the "rosy" assumptions made by officials working under the instructions of Kenneth Clarke, the former

In particular, Sir John's officials would be examining the forecast for the underlying trend rate of economic growth. put at 2.5 per cent "over the rest of the 1990s" in Mr Clarke's last Red Book Budget Report. That estimate compares with an average growth rate of 1.7 per cent for the 18 years of Tory rule.

Another assumption being questioned by the Treasury's new management related to the assumption that a "spend to save" investment of £800m in fighting fraud and revenue evasion would reap savings of £6.7bn over the next three years. That assumption could have led to an artificial lowering of the Public Sector Bor-

rowing Requirement. Mr Brown will tell MPs today that he wants to restore trust, honesty and openness to public finances, and Sir John could oow be given a continuing role in reporting to Parliament on future Budget forecasts.

In a speech to the Confederation of British Industrytonight, Mr Brown will reinforce his pledge to be tough oo government spending and borrowing and that the Budget next month will look to the longterm needs of the economy.





	FLOWER SHOW SO-25 May LD, NATIONS CUP 29 May - 1 June 29 May - 1 June 29 May - 1 June 31 May 12 June 13 June 15 June 16 June 17-20 June 25 June 25 June 25 June 25 June 28 June
BEST IN GLASS	
	00.0034
CHILLIA FLOWER SHOW	30-25 May
HICHTEAD, NATIONS CUP	29 May - 1 June
ROUND THE ISLAND RACE, INL. OF WIGHT	31 May
IST CORNELL TEST MATCH V AUSTRALIA. EDGBASTION	5-9 jun c
GARSINGTON OPERA	10 June - 6 July '
ROYAL ASCOT	17-20 June
WINBLEDOK TENNIS CHAMPSONSHIP	23 June-6 July
POLO, VEUVE CLICQUOT GOLD CUV, COMPRAY PARE 2	S June -20 July
HENLEY ROTAL REGATTA	2-6 July
BANPTON COURT PALACE INTERNATIONAL FLOWER SHOW	9-13 july



■ Veuve Clicquot

CHAMPAGNE OF THE SEASON

Cigarette company logos are to disappear from cricket grounds, snooker halls and motor-racing circuits under plans announced yesterday to ban tobacco sponsorship of

Sponsors stubbed out Slaughter revealed Codebreakers at the Bletchslaughter of hundreds of thousands of Jews a year before the Nazis launched the Final

Desert island dispute The Spratly Islands barely ley Park cipher school cracked make it on to maps, or even oo Nazi messages revealing the to the HMS Illustrious radar as the ship passes by. But, as Richard Lloyd Pary reports, these insignificant islands could spark an Asian war. Page 12

THE BROADSHEET

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significant shorts

Radioactive gas 'not to blame' for cancer cluster

Radon gas was yesterday ruled out as a cause of a leukaemia cluster which killed a teenage boy and struck two of his schoolmates. Detailed testing carried out at the school at Camelford. Cornwall, found levels of the gas were within recognised limits for nondomestic buildings. Cornwall bas the country's highest levels of radon, a naturally occurring radioactive gas.

Last autumn, the authority revealed investigations concluded that neither the Camelford acid water disaster in 1988, nor electromagnetic fields from an overhead power cable in the area of the the school caused the cluster. In the water pollution incident, supplies to 20,000 people in the Camelford area were affected after 20 tonnes of aluminium sulphate was accidentally dumped into the

wrong tank at a water treatment works.

Health experts were called in by the health authority after three teenagers in the same 25-strong tutor group at the Camelford school were diagnosed as having leukaemia.

RAF Harrier pilot ejects to safety

An RAF pilot escaped when his Harrier jump jet crashed yesterday. He ejected from the plane which came down in a field near the White Water Reservoir north of RAF Wittering on the Cambs/Lines border. He was taken to hospital but was not seriously injured.

An RAF spokeswoman said there were no reports of damage to property or injury to people or livestock on the ground. It is not yet known whether the plane was landing or taking off when it crashed. An internal investigation is under way into the loss of the jump jet, which was worth several million pounds.

Two injured in manhole cover blast

Two people were injured, one seriously, when a manhole cover was blown off by a blast yesterday in a crowded street. The incident happened at around 3pm on Newport Place at the junction of Charing Cross Road in London's West End.

A male passer-by suffered 20 per cent burns to his legs in the incident and a woman sustained minor head injuries.

Casualty unit to face axe after all



Hospital campaigners have been left disappointed and "feeling cheated" after the Government announced it would not overturn a controversial Conservative decision to close part of a London hospital.

Alan Milhurn, Minister of State for Health, yesterday announced a review of services at Edgware Hospital - but insisted the closed Accident and Emergency unit would not be reopened:

The future of Edgware Hospital erupted onto the political stage last year when local MPs Hugh Dykes and Sir John Gorst (pictured) threatened to resign the Tory whip and end John Mayor's majority in the Commons if the casualty unit was closed. Both MPs lost their seats at the general election.

Union boss quits amid acrimony

The suspended general secretary of the largest college lecturers' union has stood down amid allegations of incompetence, leaving his union to embark on its annual conference without a leader. John Akker, the newly-deposed leader of the National

Association of Teachers in Further and Higher Education, accepted an early retirement package after a key National Executive sub-committee passed a unanimous vote of no confidence in him. However, it is understood Mr Akker, who had two years on his

five-year contract left to run, may mount a legal challenge against his former union over the procedures used to oust him. His departure leaves NATFHE leaderless for its conference, starting in Scarborough on Saturday. There are understood to be six contenders for the general secretary's post.

Unison outrage at voucher wages

A union leader vesterday called for an inquiry into an old people's home which is part-paying staff in shopping vouchers instead of Busses at Alexandra House in Great Ya mouth, Norfolk, said

the vast majority of workers were happy with the arrangement.

But John Toomey, Unison's regional officer for East Anglia, said the arrangement was "outrageous" and a practice that belonged in

Orchid goes public after 50 years

The Lary's Slipper Orchid. Britain's rarest wild flower bas gone on purity display for the first time in more than half a century after being saved from extinction. English Nature yesterday revealed the location of seedlings of

Lady's Slipper has been growing in England, and its whereabouts have been one of conservationists' closest guarded secrets.

About 18 months ago, seedlings developed from the plant after more than 15 years of research at Kew Gardens were planted out in five other locations. In a dramatic move towards the plant's

THE INDEPENDENT ABROAD

revival, English Nature has announced one of the places was along

Ingleton Glens Waterfall Walk near Settle, North Yorkshire.

AustriaSch40	N1ands Fl5.00
BelgiumBFr90	traly 14.500
Cananes Prs300	Madera Esc325
Cyprus C£1.20	Malta 43 certs
Denmark Dkr18	Nonesy Nkr20
Insh Rep 45p	Portugal Est.325
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BACK ISSUES Back issues of the independent are available foots Historic Newspapers, relephone 01988 840370.

UK BANKS AND BUILDING SOCIETIES

people



IN FATHER'S SHADOW: Aleida, daughter of Che Guevara, at the launch yesterday of a CD of tribute songs, written and recorded to mark the 30th aniversary of the revolutionary's death

Barclays chief to lead reform of tax and welfare system

artin Taylor, chief executive of the Barclays bank-ing group yesterday became the second op basi-nessman to be drafted in to spearhead Government reforms, after being appointed by the Chancellor, Gordon Brown, to head a task force aimed at streamlining the tax and benefits systems

But Labour's new-found affinity with business may soon run into controversy. It was revealed earlier that Peter Jarvis, the retiring chief executive of the Whitbread brewing and letsure group, who was in line to chair the Govemment's Low Pay Commission, was himself paid more than £1m last year. The figure represents around £520 an hour, or over 150 times the £3,20-an-hour level, which he is thought to favour as the threshold for any mini-

Mr Taylor's job comes swiftly after the appointment of SIr David Simon, the former chairman of BP, as minister for trade and competitiveness in Europe, in the Department of Trade and Industry. The latest task force, which will be entirely Whitehall-based, and is expected to last a year, fulfils a manifesto commitment to streamline and modernise the system, to promote work in-

centives, reduce poverty and welfare dependency, while "strengthening community and femily life". Mr Taylor said he "didn't want a committee of the great

and the good"; rather he expected it to consist of him-

self and four civil servants, one eech from the Treasury,

the Inland Revenue, the Department of Social Security, and the Department for Education and Employment. Mr Taylor, an Eton-educated former financial journalist, will give two days a month to the project. He said he would be taking decenitions from autside bedies, but

the challenge would be to "discipline ourselves to keep on the question", which he conceded was extremely Meanwhile, the latest accounts for Whitbread revealed that Mr Jarvis's basic pay and bonus rose 7.9 per cent, to just under £599,000 in the year to 1 March, but he

also cashed in share options which netted him an additional profit of £441,000. The indications from Down-Ing Street are that Mr Jarvis may not now be in the running for the Low Pay job. His candidature has met with considerable hostility from trade union leaders.

Magnus Grimond

Rabbi takes leading role in health debate

At the age of 47, Rabbi Julia Neuberger (right) already has a string of prestigious achievements to her name. She became the first British woman rabbi with a congregation, is chair of the largest community health trust in Britain, and is Chancellor of the University of Uister.

Now she will be at the forefront of the National Health Service debate after being appointed yesterday as chief executive of the independent think-tank, the King's

The fund, established 100 years ego by the then Prince of Wales, later Edward VII, and which employs around 200, is a respected forum for new thinking in health policy. Under Rabbl Neuberger, the organisation is expected to take a more pro-ective role in health policy, at e time when the new Labour Government begins its own restructuring of the NHS.

Rabbi Neuberger said yesterdey she was "thrilled" to be appointed. "I have always had enormous respect for the work of the fund."

She added: "As the new Govemment begins its programme, there are very substantial and challenging issues to be faced for health care in its widest sense, including social care end housing.



both in London and throughout the country."

Already a fellow of the King's Fund Management College, Rabbi Neuberger was also quick to refer to the body's "commitment to the principles of social justice and to support bold end innovative

Her eppointment, which brings with it a salary of more than £90,000, was approved by the charity's president, Prince Charles, and was the unanimous choice of the management committee, out of around 100 original

One of her early priorities when she takes over from current chief executive, Robert Maxwell, in December, will be to help reduce the fund'e overspend, which last year reached £780,000.

Michael Streeter

Hawking launches supercomputer

Professor Stephen Hawking yesterdey edmitted he was wrong to predict 17 years ago that, by how, scientists would have developed a unified theory explaining the structure of the universe - but then forecast that in 20 years' time they will. Professor Hawking was speak-

ing at the official leunch in Cambridge of a new supercomputer able to model the earliest moments of the universe after its creation,15 billion years ago.

Speaking through his speech synthesizer, the physicist - who suffers from motor neurone disease, said he had hoped physicists and mathematicians would heve developed e "grand unified theory for the universe by 2000.

Such a unified theory – tying to-gether and explaining the interaction of universal forces such as gravity and electromagnetism -has eluded generations of great minds, including Albert Einstein.

The new £2m computer, called Cosmos, could play a key part in that by allowing theoreticians to model the growth of the universe from its earliest moments. "The calculations involved are so enormous they require e state-of-the-art machine," said Professor Hawking. The computer - contains 32 individual processors and 8 000 megabytes of main memory

Charles Arthur

briefing

Ban on interviews urged to stop selection by schools

Pre-admission school interviews should be banned to reduce covert selection by comprehensives, says a new paper published today. The controversial assertion by academics at the London School of Economics would mean that schools such as the Oratory, the London grant-maintained school attended by the Prime Minister's. son, would no longer be able to interview pupils and parents to confirm their religious affiliation.

Schools which do not stick to their published admissions criteria.

should be fined, the paper also proposes.

David Blunkett, the Secretary of State for Education, has

promised a review of edmissions policies to ensure that they are fair and open after a recent Audit Commission report said admissions were in "gridlock".

At present, church schools and opted out schools are free to decide their own admissions policies. One in five parents fails to get their first choice of school. The fairest system, says the paper, would be for one body - probably the local authority - to control all admissions in an area.

SPENDING

An 'Upstairs, Downstairs' life

Researchers are predicting a return to the "Upstairs, Downstairs society" after finding that domestic service was the single fastest growing item of consumer speeding over the last decade. Households spent £18bn on nannies, home helps, cleane gardeners, and window cleaners in 1996, according to the new edition of the *Lifestyle Handbook* from the Advertising Association.

The chimestic services category has grown by almost 150 per cent since 1986, mainly reflecting the needs of working parents for child care. The category only just grew faster than spending on education – attributable to the replacement of student grants by

student loans. Other increasingly popular items were CDs and video tapes, which grew by 118 per cent over the 10 years, and cinema

spending, which grev by 111 per cent. The biggest fall in spending was nn coal, television and video repairs, shoe repairs, sugar and television

was the 11th highest total spending category for UK consumers in 1996. The was housing at £76bn and second was leisure, at £62bn. Consumers spent £51bn nn food.

Consumers' top 10

1. Housing 2. Leisure services 3. Food (household)

4. Motoring 5. Household goods 6. Alcohol Clubbing and footwear

8. Leisure goods 9. Financial services 10. Personal goods and services

SOCIETY

State fails to narrow poverty gap

Government spending on the welfare state has done little to offset the growing divide between rich and poor. Only just over half of all expenditure, on health, education, housing subsidies and social services, benefits the poorer half of the population, according to a study published today by the Joseph Rowntree Foundation.

The research into spending since 1979 finds that the value of the "social wage" - the income in kind received from welfare services was only 20 per cent higher for the poorest fifth of the population than the richest fifth, when differences in age and sex are taken The limited degree of redistribution achieved by the welfare

state is explained by the fact that although expenditure on housing and social services is heavily weighted towards the poor, spending on higher education benefits the most prosperous.

Even allowing for the social wage, the gap between the richest and poorest households grew markedly wider between 1979 and 1993. The income of the poorest fifth, in cash and kind, grew by up to 13 per cent, compared with a 60 per cent increase for the richest

The Changing Distribution of the Social Wage. Summary available from the Joseph Rowntree Foundation, 01904 629241 or www.jrf.org.uk.

DIET

8 million Britons eat their greens

The number of vegetarians in Britain is growing by more than 5,000 every week, according to a survey. It also claims that more than 8 million people in Britain bave cut red meat completely from

The study was conducted for Realeat, a food company which caters for vegetarians. It concludes that 13,000 people e week are removing red meat from their dinner tables, while more than half of the population bave reduced the amount they consume. For more than one in five of those questioned, the BSE scare was the primary reason for dietary change.

According to the research, three million people are now vegetarian, with the proportion of male vegetarians at its highest since the annual survey began in 1984.

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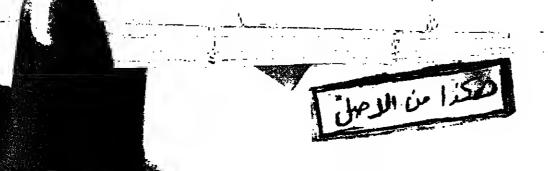
NEWSPAPERS SUPPORT RECYCLING Recycled paper made up 41.2% of the raw material for UK newspapers

in the first half of 1996

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1972: there has

Private nurseria

Sports sponsorship goes up in smoke



Eddie trvine in his Mariboro-sponsored Ferrari, one of the Formula One teams which will be hit by the planned ban Photograph: Allsport

Downstairs' life

2. Lettre series

3. \$300 TURNS

THE TANK THE PERSON 8 Leaves 2005 A. France Street

to narrow poverty gap

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HORE AT LESS TO THE STATE OF TH

Motorry S. Howard South

S Aircraft

Dobson sets out plans to cut tobacco use

Cigarette company logos such as the Marlboro cowboy are to disappear from cricket grounds, snooker halls and motor racing circuits under plans announced yesterday to ban tobacco sponsorship of sport.

Frank Dobson, the Secretary of State for Health, declared his determination to include sport spon-sorship in a furthcoming Bill to outlaw tobacco advertising after a week nf uncertainty over whether it could be incorporated in the ban.

Ministers were known in be concerned about the impact nn the sports affected by the loss of hun-dreds of millions of pounds of sponsorship. But Mr Dobson said the impact on public health was greater.

pendent on tobacco sponsorship. We will therefore give them time and help to reduce their dependency on

A White Paper setting out the Government's plans to cut smoking would be published together with a draft Bill to ban tobacco advertising. every possible lever of government, including "changes in the law, taxa-tion, education and publicity to re-duce tobacco consumption".

Mr Dobson told the Royal College of Nursing's annual conference in Harrogate, that plans to reduce smoking would be the centrepiece of the Government's commitment to improve the nation's health. He said the Government had no

SILK CUT

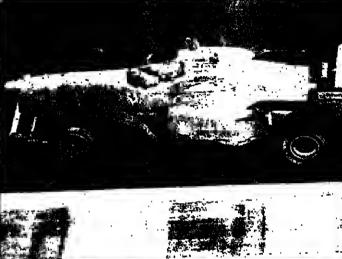
"We recognise that some sports, wish to harm the sports affected but like some smokers, are heavily decharitable to the tobacco industry which, he said, was unique in killing 120,000 of its own customers every year. "So it has in recruit 120,000 new smokers to its ranks each year."

It was unclear how international sporting events in the UK or shown on television here would be affect-The White Paper would explore ed, but Mr Dobson said later. "My understanding is that if a car is running at the grand prix here it won't be carrying tobacco advertising."

The move surprised medical organisations who had not expected it so soon. The Cancer Research Campaign said: "This is a day we never thought we would see. We are realty pleased the new government has honoured its pledge so early on, Dobson health pledge, page 10



Jimmy White takes a drag at the Embassy Warld Snooker Photograph: Mike Cooper/Allsport





The golfer Nick Faldo at the Alfred Dunhill Masters

Photograph: Mike Cooper/Allsport The Silk Cut yachting team. The brand's parent, Gallaher, also sponsors through Benson & Hedges Photograph: Empics Firms braced for stampede from the losing teams

forts all at the same time."

heavily dependent.

Doyle said yesterday: "If the ban

was to take effect immediately

it would be nur worst night-

The tobacco industry's spon-

Paul McCann. Andy Farrell and Mike Rowbotham

Companies are bracing themselves for a rush of sports administrators knocking nn their doors looking for new sponsorship cash to replace the £9m a year spent by inhacco com-

There are currently 34 sports events sponsored by tobacco companies in the United King-dom and countless individual team sponsorships in all manner of sports. The deals range from the £250,000 a year that the little-known Ice Hockey Superleague receives from Benson & Hedges to the £20m international deal hetween Rothmans and the Williams Formula One team.

Tohacco money is estimated to be worth up to £200m in Formula One, whose organising body is planning to float in the stock exchange later this year.

Benson & Hedges' links with their chosen events go back many years. The B&H Masters, in snooker, began in 1975; the B&H Cup in cricket started in 1972; there has been sponsorship of golf - the B&H International - since 1970. More recently they have proSix of the best deals

The voluntary agreement also limits the use of cigarette

Sponsor and event Embassy: Snooker, World Championships Rothmans: Motorsport, Williams team West Brand: Motorsport, McLaren team Benson and Hedges: Motorsport, Jordan team £10m Benson and Hedges: Snooker, B&H Masters Silk Cut: Rugby League, Chailenge Cup' Deals as of May 1997

Hockey (1992) and, through Silk Cut, another branch of its parent company Gallaher, there has been sponsorship of the Rugby League Challenge Cup

industries such as financial services, mobile phones and computing are being talked about as the ones to replace the tohacco money. However, as one sponsorship executive said: "It is dangerous to believe there is a queue of people waiting to

come in and replace tobacco." Barrie Gill, nf the sponsor-ship agency CSS, said: "When Silk Cut pulled out of Hickstead this year horse jumping lost an

Juhn Lord, chief executive of the Ice Hockey Superleague. predicted a "mad scramble for money". He said: "Most sports are constantly looking for new vided the B&H Cup in Ice sources of revenue. Now everynames and logos on Formula One cars in the British Grand Prix, although they can use the sponsor's colours.

Tobacco sponsorship of sport dates hack to the early 1960s when snooker and motor racing were sponsored by the industry because it could not advertise

Mike Scott, director of the Inone will be redoubling their efstitute of Sports Sponsorship, said: "Tobacco has been in-The sponsorship industry strumental in the development helieves the timing of a of sports that did nn1 have pubsponsorship ban will be crucial. lic exposure or even their own Some sports, such as cricket, national tournament. Sport have already cut their sponsorship is now more dedependency on tobacco funding while snooker and darts remain veloped in the UK than in the rest of Europe, but it will still be hard for minority sports tn The snooker manager lan replace the lost money."

The Thhacco Manufacturers' Association has requested a meeting with Frank Dobson,

but has yet to receive replay.

A spokesman said: "We beheve there is no justification for sorship has been held back to within the rate of inflation since any erosion of nur ability tn compete in the market place. a voluntary agreement with the government in 1972. The agree-Our sponsorships increase the ment prevents the industry reputation of our companies, sponsoring sports that attract a young following, such as footand also increase hrand awareness. But there is no convincing ball, or what is known in the inevidence that banning spondustry as "puff" sports such as sorship and advertising has any athletics, swimming or cycling.



Private nurseries to get state aid

Fran Abrams Political Correspondent

Private nurseries and playgroups will receive state funding to offer places to fouryear-olds under plans to be announced this week.

The Government hopes the proposals will help it to fulfil its promise to abolish the Tories' nursery voucher scheme. Although details of the plan are still heing finalised, it is bound to cause anger in some local authorities which had hoped to regain control of the funding and planning of pre-school education. It will, however, be welcomed by the private and voluntary sectors.

Since 1 April, parents of all four-year-olds have been entitied to vouchers worth £1,100 per year for pre-schnol education for their children, which they could spend in a state or private school or in a playgroup. Labour has always argued that the scheme was



want to see the programme replaced by September, but they face a tight schedule to put their own plans into place by then. The scheme will remain in place until March 1998 in Wales and August 1998 in Scotland, but this is unlikely to happen in England.

draw up plans showing how it can provide a place for every four-year-old, though it is left entirely up to local authorities. Instead, government guidance could insist that private schools and playgroups be giv-en places on pursery forums which would bid for funds for each area. This, it is hoped, would ensure that they featured strongly in the proposals. One of the problems the

Government faces is preventing authorities from using their greater muscle to win the lion's share of funding for themselves. Under the voucher 100 bureaucratic and that it scheme, local authority schools should be abolished. Ministers were accused of cramming fouryear-olds into their reception classes to get the extra cash which followed them.

Conversely, authorities which have always funded nursery education fear they could lose out because a larger share of the cash could go to those with very Each area will be expected to few under-fives in education.

policy, published last November, said that public-private partthought unlikely that this will be nerships would be set up to ensure the planning and provision nf nursery places. However, the extent to which the private and voluntary sectors will be involved has never before been made clear. Party sources had talked about using partnerships with business to help build new nursery centres, but had not specified that a Labour government would fund places for children in private schools.

Last night a party source said ministers hoped to build on suggestions made by its nursery education task force last year. Margaret Lochrie, adminis-

trator of the Pre-School Learning Alliance, formerly known as the playgroups' association, welcomed the news that its members would not automatically lose the funding they had gained from vouchers, but said there was "a certain amount of worry" about the changes.





Hands-on: Interactive exhibits like this at London's Tower Bridge Experience detract from the object of the display, say critics

Are museums turning Britain into a heritage Disneyland?

David Lister Arts News Editor

The growth in the oumber of museums may have led to too many institutions, and too heavy a reliance on Disney-style theme park displays, an audience of leading museum figures was told last night.

British Museum, Sir Nicholas which helps museums and gal- inadequate funding.

leries in the UK to buy works of art, made a provocative plea for museums to merge and take a more businesslike attitude to their affairs.

In the annual AW Franks lecture, named after one of the museum's most emment scholars. Sir Nicholas questioned whether the study of costs and Delivering a lecture at the efficiency had been rigorous enough, and said it was "very Goodison, chairman of the Na-tional Art Collections Fund, of museums were due to

He asked: "Is there room for further savings through the pooling of service costs between museums either nationally or locally? Is collecting effort being duplicated? Should certain collections be amalgamated or transferred from one museum to another? Here io the capital ... it strikes me that there is room for some rationalisation in the field of works on paper."

He added: "Is there scope for amalgamation, which implies closure, of some museums which cannot operate economically or which cannot achieve their objectives on their own? Commerce is well accustomed to such solutions.

View of the past: A traditional 'object-centred' museum display Photograph: Hulton Getty

In 1973 there were 950 miseums in Britain. By 1988 this figure had risen to 2.500. There so accurate figure for the number in existence now, but 2,500 is still thought to be a reliable estimate, according to the Museums Association.

also made an impassioned attack on "interpretative, themepark, play-time displays" in museums obscuring the objects in the collection. "Of course museums provide fun days out for

the whole family," he said, "but in doing so, they must not lose sight of their unique characteristic, their collections ... The important thing is developing an appreciation of 'objects' and the difference between the real

thing and replicas. um to ape Madame Tussaud's or Disneyland. The object is at the making warbling noises and hub of a museum's purpose ... Works of art are often uncomfortable experiences, often mysterious. They should be allowed

to speak for themselves and not be debased."

He added how much he had eojoyed a receot visit to Keats' House in Hampstead, where, he said "everyooe imagines the nightingale in the garden and where thankfully you are not inhear some interactive machine | 12-bed ward. The next morning | her to exemplary damages. reciting 'My heart aches and a drowsy numbness pains my scose As though of hemlock l

Pregnant prisoner tells of her ordeal in chains

Patricia Wynn Davies Legal Affairs Editor

The controversy over the shackling of pregnant women came back to haunt the Home Office vesterday as Annette Walker. the former Holloway prisoner whose treatment sparked a political row, began a legal action for injury and distress.

A summons issued by Ms Walker, 31, at the Central London County Court explains that she is seeking basic, aggravated and exemplary, or punitive, damages of up to £50,000 for the pain, distress, humiliation, anxiety and injury caused by the use of "unnecessary, excessive and unlawful force

The policy of shackling pregnant womeo with handcuffs and chains, introduced during Derek Lewis's tenure as director-general of the Prison Service, was revealed when Channel 4 News showed secretly-filmed footage of Ms Walker in chains at the Whittington Hospital in Archway, oorth London.
It fell to Ann Widdecombe,

the then prisons minister, to defend the policy in a stormy Commons debate in January last year, although the use of chains oo hospital premises was ultimately abandooed.

The particulars of claim say Ms Walker, who was six months pregnant when sentenced to two years' imprisonment for theft, was shackled by handcuffs with a chain between them when takco from Holloway to the Whittington in December 1995 after

xperienciog abdominal pains. While prisoo officers allegedly agreed to remove the cuffs during an abdominal examination, the officers remained in the room. The chains were re-applied afterwards and

she took breakfast in the dining room chained to an officer in the view of other patients.

Virgin train fares rise 15%

On a second visit to the hos-pital Ms Walker claims that officers applied the handcuffs very tightly and told her to "shut up" when she asked for them to be loosened. On arrival, she remained chained to two female officers who watched while an internal examination was conducted.

Ms Walker claims that one of the officers told her to "shut up" and said words to the effect of we've all had babies before it's nothing". An officer also al legedly called her a "sneaky bitch' for trying to get a visit from her mother while she was in hospital.

She was also chained throughout a third visit. Ms Walker gave birth to her baby on her fourth visit to hospital She says she was chained to a bed in a private room prior to the hirth and wheo she went out. of the room to have a cigarette she was shackled to an officer. Ms Walker's baby daughter,

Tierney, was delivered on 2 Jan-uary 1996 after a 12-hour labour. 'At almost the moment of the birth, the officers' shift changed and a male officer came into the labour room while the plaiotiff was covered in blood and the placeota was-heing delivered," the particulars

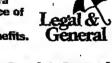
Ms Walker will rely on the testimony of Dr Anne Bird, a consultant psychiatrist, to prove that she developed post traumatic stress disorder within a

month of the birth. Ms Walker claims the actions of officers were calculated to "humiliate, degrade and distress" her, entitling her to aggravated damages. In addition, they were "arbitrary, oppressive "It is not a role of the muse-vited to press a burroo and she was chained to a bed in a and unconstitutional", entitling

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isions of a nation's eccentricity

David Lister

In the north of Scotland, the Wick Museum is responsible for one of the oddest displays in the United Kingdom, It exhibits jetsam washed op on the beach.

In Gloncester, Robert Opie's Mnseum of Advertising and Packaging contains a quarter of a million items, from cornflake boxes to advertising labels.

Those two homes of scholarship are still going strong. Sadly, the Bakelite Museum - a collection of nid telephones and toilet seats made out of bakelite - is no longer. The living tribute tn early plastic, which sculptor Patrick Cook kept in his flat at Peckham, south London, has closed. The owners of the block

of flats terminated the lease. Britain thrives on independent museums, reflections of their owners' obsessions. They come and go with such speed

that trying to collate reliable statistics becomes impossible. Simon Tait, author of Palaces of Discovery - The Changing World Of Britain's Museums, says: "Some of it is wonderful stuff, some of it is instantly forgettable; but these museums

add to Britain's eccentricity." Where small can be wacky, big is often now interactive. The Natural History Museum in London teaches its young and not-so-young visitors about geology through its new Earth Galleries, opened last year, Visitors can take an escalator

through the centre of the earth, witness a "live" earthquake monitoring station, step inside the Earthquake Experience and walk beneath a volcann.

The Earth Galleries ore one

of the latest and most high-profile examples of "interactive experiences". A search through the latest Museums and Galleries 1997 guide produced by the national tonrist boards shows that the Notural History Museum is not alone. The Imperial War Museum gives the snunds and smells of the Blitz; the Jorvik Viking Centre in York an electronic car ride through a "time tunnel" on to

a Viking street; Snibston Dis-

covery Park in Leicestershire al-

lows children to walk through

toric Dockyard gives children hands-on naval experience of tying knots, using pulleys and signalling in semaphere. At the Science Museum in London a working radio station enables older children to present and record their own programmes. And at Eureka!, in Halifax, an exhibit called Me and My Body allows children to walk inside a giant mouth aod wohhle a

At the Natural History Museum, Giles Clark, who designed the Earth Galleries Exhihition, says: "I don't use interactive exhibits for fun, although that's a bonus. I use them because they're the most effective educational tool."

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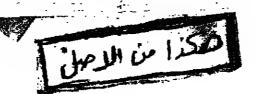
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Virgin train rise 15%

Randeep Ramesh Transport Correspondent

A private train company run by Richard Branson's Virgin group has raised the prices of some of its cheap "walk-on" fares by six times the rate of inflation.

fares

The 15 per cent rise by Virgin CrossCountry on rides from England to Scotland using Super Saver tickets, which can be used on any day except Fridays and summer Saturdays, will, according to pressure group Save Our Railways, mean the end of affordable, turn-up-and-go train

Scheduled to be introduced in June, the new prices will mean that some tickets which do not allow passengers to travel on a Friday will be more expensive than tickets which do. A spokesman for CrossCountry said: "Some fares are rising by 15 per cent. But many other ticket prices are coming down."

Mr Branson, who took over the running of £100m Cross-Country services last year, has to increase ticket sales by 10 per cent in order to make the line profitable. His business plan is based around airling-style marketing. This means that a numher of low-cost tickets have been heavily promoted by the company - hut all require passengers to book their journey at least a day early and to specify outbound and return trains.

"The price of tickets which you have to book in advance are falling by 10 per cent. There will always be people who want an open-type ticket and they will have to pay a premium," said a spokesman.

Barry Doe, the transport consultant who uncovered the new pricing regime, claimed that the days of just taking the first train that turned up are numbered."

The increases are being brought in on all "anglo-Scoitish" fares controlled by Cross-Country. This will affect cheap returns to Scotland from Wales, the South West and most of the Midlands and the North West.

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ou within the ha

well give you!

HE AA OF RACE



Fragrant bloom: The violinist Vanessa Mae sitting in the EMI music garden at the Chelsea Flower Show, which opens today Photograph: David Rose

Sawar to sue over bribery allegation

Mohammad Sawar, the Labour MP for Glasgow Govan, yesterday instructed solicitors to issue a writ against the News of the World as he fought to shake off allegations of history and election irregularities. Standing on the steps of his

solicitors' office in central Glasgow, Mr Sawar, Britain's first Muslim MP said the newspaper charges against him were "to-

paid £5,000 to the Independent Labour candidate, Badar Islam.

in "compensation" for going easy in his compaign in order not to split Govan's substantial

The normally flamboyant Mr Islam, who polled 319 votes, was not to be found yesterday. As stories of the former professional cricketer's record of debts, gamhling problems and husiness failures emerged, he was said to have left the country.

Mr Islam's absence from Go-

van was entirely in keeping with the bizarre drama that It was claimed that Mr Sawar has been unfolding ever since Mr Sawar, a millionaire businessman, announced his inten-

tion to stand for the Glasgow seat more than three years agn.

Mr Sawar welcomed the police investigation called for on Sunday by Donald Dewar, Secretary of State for Scotland, but said n would be wrong of him to comment further until the police inquiry was completed. "I have no intention of al-

lowing these events to interfere with my duty to represent my constituents," he said. The MP spent yesterday morning in talks with shop stewards and management at the Kvearner shipyard. He was, he said, more concerned with securing Clyde-

side jobs than "giving these type of stories any time".

Strathelyde Police confirmed they had added the hribery investigation to on-going inquiries into an extraordinary rush of late entries to Govan's electoral roll - more than 200 of the new voters were Asians io the ward represented by Mr Sawar on Glasgow city council.

Police officers yesterday in-terviewed Peter Paton, an Unofficial Labour candidate on 1 May and long-standing critic of alleged electoral practices in Govan, Mr Paton and Jamil Abassi, who stood as an Inde-

pendent Conservative, hoth claim to have been offered four figure inducements by Sawar

supporters.
"The politics of the Indian subcontinent is being grafted on to the streets of Govan and it is totally repugnant to me," said Mr Paton. "We have to restore democracy in Govan and mot out the wrong-doers in our midst."

If Mr Paton gets his wish and either the police or Labour Party inquiries lead to a re-run of the ballot, the ultimate beneficiaries could be the Scottish Nationalist Party, which twice won the old Govan scat.

Saudis try **British** nurses for murder

Two British nurses accused of murdering a colleague at a Saudi Arabian hospital appeared at the opening session of their trial yesterday, hand-cuffed and with shackles on

Deborah Parry, from Alton in Cheshire, and Lucille McLauchian, from Dundee, arrived in a police van at Khobar Supreme Court at noon dressed in traditional black Saudi robes. Escorted by their lawyer, Salah al-Hejailan, and flanked by a dozen policemen, the two women, hampered by the shackles, walked slowly into the courthouse through a side

Ms McLauchlan appeared healthy and relaxed, but Ms Parry looked drawn as they entered he courthouse to appear before a three-judge tribunal. Also present was the British Consul, General William Patey, Police prevented the Press from catering the courthouse.

Ms Parry, 41, and Ms McLauchlan, 31, face the death penalty, possibly by public beneading, if convicted of killing 55-year-old Australian nurse Yvonne Gilford. They have been in detention for nearly six

months, Ms Gilford's body was found last December in her room at the King Fahd Military Medical Complex in the eastern Saudi town of Dhahran, where the three worked as nurses. Saudi authorities said the nurse had been stabbed four times, beaten and suffocated,

Lawyers from the Interna-

tional Law Firm, which is representing the victim's family, at-lended the hearing, which lasted for two hours but made no comment. In an atmosphere described by one legal source as "increasingly difficult", British lawyers are understood to have been instructed by the Foreign Office not to speak publicly about the case.

The women have been jailed in the nearby city of Dammam since their arrest. If convicted they could face public beheading by the sword, the first time Western women would have been executed in the conservative Islamic kingdom.

Under Islamic law, which is enforced in Saudi Arabia, the vicum's family has the right to demand the death penalty or aceepi blood money. Last month, Frank Gilford, the brother of the victim, turned down an appeal from the nurses' lawyers to waive the death penalty if the nurses are convicted.

A total of 39 people have been executed in Saudi Arabia so far this year, with six beheaded vesterday alone for crimes ranging from theft to drug smuggling.

Saudi police said the nurses had confessed to the murder and that the confessions had been filed with Saudi judges. But Mr Hejailan's firm said they did so only because they were told it would mean they would not face prosecution and could go home. He said the women had withdrawn their confessions, and one of them retracted a statement that she had had a lesbian relationship with the

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news

Prescott turns up the pressure



Companies given orders to plug the leaks

Environment Correspondent

Water companies will be compelled to cut their leakage, year after year, and meet tough annual targets to do so, the Deputy Prime Minister told a water summit" vesterday. John Prescott called on all 29

companies in England and Wales to offer to locate and repair leaks in their customers' supply pipes free of charge. He asked them to write to him within three weeks "explaining how they can respond to the challeoge and implement the measures we have suggested".

Uoder its Welfare-to-Work

scheme financed by the windfall tax on utilities, the Government is also considering training uoemployed young people to help households save water. The London summit was the

Government's first public encounter with a privatised industry oo which it heaped criticism while in opposition. Mr Frescott said he wanted rapid, sustained change - and the Government was prepared to bring in new legislation if necessary. There will be a review of how

drought-prone areas. companies charge for water. Michael Meacher said he was



And there were the first signs that in power Labour is softening its total opposition to the policy of compulsory water me-

ters for some kinds of consumer. Mr Prescott was oon-comthe review and did not mention meters io his speech, even though the industry's two Government regulators, the water companies and covironmental groups agree there is a need to meter affluent households with heavy water consumption in

But Environment Minister

"certainly prepared to consider selective metering" for households with swimming pools or large gardens with sprinklers.

Mr Prescott told the audience of senior water executives, industry regulators, environmental groups and consumer representatives that he did not wish to make "the usual comments about fat-cat salaries". But he went on to say that poople saw an industry "whose directors look after themselves rather than their customers."

They also saw an industry which could not promise to maintain supplies without the

demands for water threatened the environment, an industry which allowed oearly 30 per cent of its product to leak away before customers could use it and which offered them too little

At present, the water commies of England and Wales set their own leakage targets in consultation with the industry's economic regulator, Ian Byatt of Ofwar. Prom now on, said Mr Prescott, the regulator will set each company a fresh target each year, in consultation with the Government.

Ministers accept that there is a point at which efforts to cut leakage are no looger cost-effective. But they believe that point is reached when only about 10 per ceot or less of the treated water the companies pump into their mains is lost.

Few companies oow achieve that and Thames Water - the worst leaker - loses just over 25 per cent of its water through the mains. Adding that which is lost on the customers' side, once the supply pipe crosses the boundaries of homes and businesses, brings the perceotage lost up to 38 per ceot.

On the tunnel: Executives told to find safe wagon designs

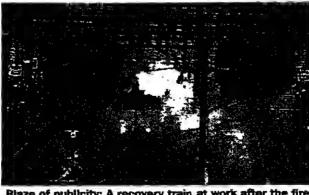
Randeep Ramesh Transport Correspondent

John Prescott, the Deputy Prime Minister, has ordered Eurotunnel's executives to produce new designs for the opeo-sided freight wagons involved in No-vember's Channel Tunnel fire.

In a meeting evening, de-scribed as "frank", Mr Prescott, who has overall responsibility for transport, told Eurotunnel's managers he would like it to look again at advances in technology that could allow the wagons to be enclosed. Options under consideration include using light but rigid plas-

tic sheets or metal shutters to enclose the wagons. Officials stressed this would not be a "complete overhaul" of the freight vehicles used but a "reappraisal taking into account the advances in technology". They said Mr Prescott's demands did not undermine decisions made by the Channel Tunnel Safety Authority, which approved the wagon's design in 1993.

Another proposal, suggested by civil servants, is that lorry drivers are carried on a separate



Blaze of publicity: A recovery train at work after the fire

train to their loads, which would impose further costs on Eurotomet but allow it to combine using the open-sided wagons Mr Prescott cannot force the executives to change the design, but he made it clear a review was required and any failure to

produce plans would not endear

the debt-ridden company to

the new administration. Although the Deputy Prime Minister did not set a date when the company should produce new designs, civil servants said the Mr Prescott wanted the

company to "rapidly implemeot a new research programme. Eurotaumel hopes to restart its hucrative freight service by the middle of next month, despite concerns over the present design of the freight

wagons by senior firefighters. Experts say the blaze spread so quickly from truck to truck only because of the absence of fire-protection barriers between wagons, and coodemned their design as "an accident waiting to happen". A report into the cause of the fire by a it was started deliberately.

The company had wanted to discuss a 40-year extension to the 65-year licence under which it operates the Channel Tunnel. But Mr Prescott has taken a tough line on safety, backing the Government's safety-authority attack on the "fundamental weaknesses" in the company's

emergency procedures.
The CTSA is also meeting this week to consider Eurotunnel's request to run empty freight services through the Channel Tunnel but officials say this will be rebuffed because "the company has not fully complied with the safety anthority's requests".

Eurotunnel's safety procedures were criticised in the official report on the fire, in which 30 people were injured. The report, published last week, made 36 recommendations for improving safety, all of which the company has promised to implement. However, the report fell short of firefighters' demands that the lattice-sided wagons should be banned.

TV chief blames law for 'boring' poll

Television made the election look like a white, middle-aged, male activity which was boring to the population thanks to outdated rules placed on broad-casters by the Representation of the People Act, the head of ITN

Richard Tait, editor in chief in the press during the campaign

of ITN, called for the act to be but only appeared on television scrayed and pleaded for a in a very constricted form," he party leaders debate to be said. "Where was the blow by agreed before the next election. In a speech to the European Media Forum in London, Mr Tait said the good intentions of the RPA led to boring and in-complete coverage. Just think of all the interesting stories and issues which were covered

most remarkable constituency battles since the war in Tatton?" Mr Tait believes that the

act's restriction on television coverage of an individual constituency - that every candidate must take part - makes many stories impossible to do.

trate on the party leaderships, he said. "As a result, the politicians who appear on television during elections are even more unrepresentative of the population as a whole than they are already - politics on television during elections often seems an almost exclusively male, white,

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Jews massacred in Holocaust test-run

John Crossland

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British codehreakers at the Bletchley Park cipher school cracked Nazi messages revealing the slaughter of hundreds uf thousands of Jews a year before the Nazis officially launched the Final Solution.

Sixty two top secret decrypts of wireless traffic of the SS Ordnungspolizci, or non-party unformed police, which revealed the "unspeakable activities" of Hitler's Einsatzgruppn or "action squads" in occupied Russia, were released vesterday at the Public Record Office New.

The documents call into question how much Churchill's government knew about the Nazi atrocities. But Dr John Fox, lectorer in Holocaust studies at Jews' College in London. whose discovery of parallel files in the American archives forced the British disclosure, said yesterday: "These decrypts could only have been seen by a select few in the Cabinet, A lowerranking Foreign Office official Roger Allen wrote on 25 January 1942, 'I suppose no one will ever be able to establish the facts about the German occupation of Russia.

This proves that the Foreign Office was not privy to the facts and in fact the decrypts were kept in a drawer until much later and were used as background evidence in preparing charges against alleged war criminals in the 1980s."

In addition, the release intriguingly highlights the reve-lation by Sir Harry Hinsley in his official history of wartime intelligence that the Ordnungspolizei suddenly adopted a more difficult hand cipher in September 1941, temporarily

baffling Bletchley Park.
On 13 September 1941, the day after Bletchley decrypted the oews that the Nazi murder squads had bragged about "one of their greatest successes in liquidating 1,548 Jews", SS general Kurt Daluege – in charge of ethnic cleansing in the aftermath of Operation Barbarossa - signalled his commanding officers: "The danger of decipherment by the enemy of

Transcripts raise doubts over how much Churchill knew of Nazi atrocities

in the early vears of the war

wireless messages is great. For this reason only such matters are to be transmitted by wireless but no information which contains states secrets or calls for a specially secret treatment. In this category fail exact figures of executions." The euphemism for mass executions was to be "action according to the usages

Within days Bletchley an-counced although so entirely new form of cipher was inaugurated for the Russian messages continuity in the breaking of the previous keys made it possible in break into the new ones too and whereas up titl 12 September only three had been broken, since then only one has remained unbroken".

The codebreaker wrote: "fn rementschug on 30 October 1941 'the action' was on a scale exceeding even the previous brutality of the German police." The local commander, Jeckeln, gave permission for the mas sacre of local Jews "and we may suppose that the butchery went on all night".

Planning for the systematic murder of Jews, which Himmler regarded as a test run for the Holocaust, began as soon as the attack was launched nn Russia. The SS high command was even prepared to accept inflat-

ed figures for victims as long they thought they were Jews, On August, two months after Barbarossa, an SS report stated "the operations of the SS Reiter [Cavalry Brigade] continues with a further 3,600 executed so that the number carried out by them amounts to 7,819; a total exceeding the 30,000 mark." The codebreaker comment-

ed: The tone of the message suggests that ... a definite decrease in the total population of Russia would be welcorned in high quarters and that the leaders of the three Sectors Jof the Einsatzgruppn] stand some-what in competition with each other on their 'scores'."

Among the papers' other reselations is the fact that a train load of 1,2% Hungarian Jews was dispatched to Auschwitz io August 1943 for experiments into malaria, under the cun Irol of Himmler's Special Commissar for combating animal pests

There were also details of the plunder of Russian art treasures by squads controlled, by the Foreign Minister Jouchim Ribbentrop. The greatest prizes were reserved for the use of the higher Nazi bosses in their villas; the lesser bosses had to be content with rare books and costly vases."

The discovery last week of a painting from the Amber Room of the Tsar's summer palace touside St Petershurg, is high-lighted by a report that the



Call for inquiry into care homes

Residential care home owners are calling for an independent government inquiry into the Buckinghamshire abuse scandal

Angela Rowe, the director of two homes in Stoke Poges, Buckinghamshire, was convicted of ill-treating meotally disabled resideots. Two other former members of staff, Lorraine Field and Desmood Tully, were also found guilty of ill-treatment.

The Association for Resideotial Care, which represents home owners, said yesterday that lessons must be learned for

James Churchill, its chief executive, said: "The regulatory framework failed vulnerable residents over a long period of people in such cases. time. All agencies must learn

The association intends to

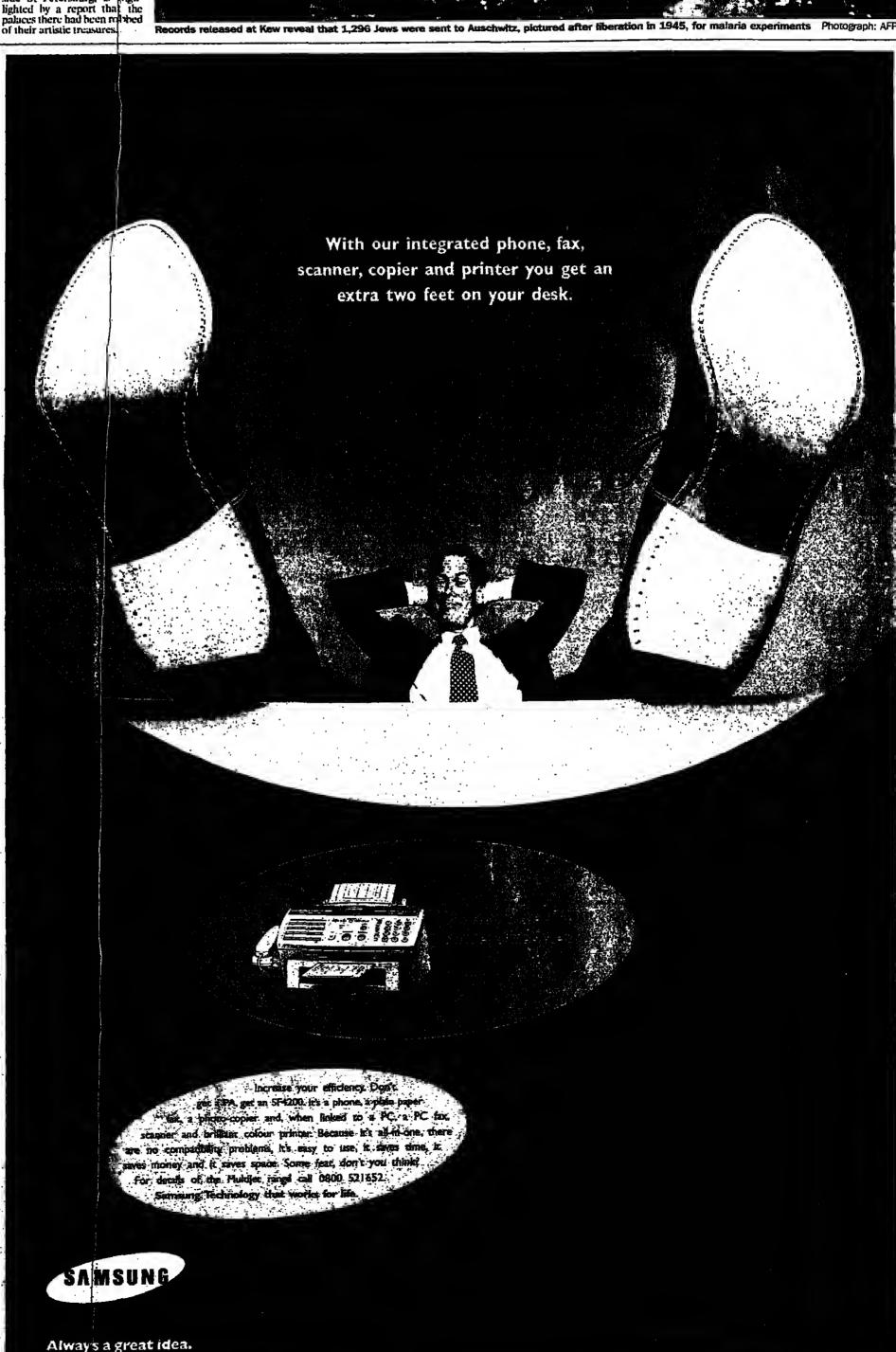
raise the matter at a meeting planned with Paul Boateng, the minister with responsibilities for the mentally disabled.

Among the questions it wants answered is why the ill-treat-ment, which included mental, physical and sexual abuse, was allowed to continue for 10 years before social services ordered a full report.

Although Buckinghamshire social services has said its lawyers advised against closing the homes after the abuse was discovered, the association believes de-registration should have been carried out It repeated calls for a new national inspectorate, independent of social services departments.

Mr Churchill said: "This case proves that locally controlled inspectorates are not up to the task of protecting vulnerable

"How can we have any confidence that it is not happening somewhere else?"



DAILY POEM

Pillow Talk

By Linda France

I am the keeper of your dreams, that white horizon, the cut cord.

I am cradle, cot and playground, a fairy-tale of wolves and wishes.

A third of your life you'll give to me,

Come, lie naked between my sheets. Aren't I an expert in sweat and secrets,

your body's lost-and-found, its best three-letter word? I'll be roses and daisies forever.

And ever. Rest in me.

This second selection from Linda France's new collection Storyville comes from its "Home Movies" section, about "the life in art and the art in life". Storyville is published by Blood-

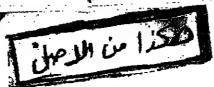


306 PEUGEOT THE DRIVE OF YOUR LIFE There are some things in life you never want to let go.

Nidde misle

For Agreement and

Howard a second





Tory leadership: Ex-minister delivers fatal blow to former Home Secretary

Widdecombe: The man who misled House without lying

Kim Sengupta and Fran Abrams

Michael Howard's hopes of leading the Conservative Party were scuppered last night when his former deputy accused him in Parliament of "semantic prestidigitation". In a scathing per-formance heard by MPs largely in fascinated silence. Ann Widdecombe delivered hlow after blow to the credibility of the former home secretary.

Mr Howard sat apparently impassive on the Opposition front bench as his former minister of state ended both his political career and her own. "My Right Honourable and Learned Friend has an exquisite way with of displaying immense skill in misleading the House without ever actually telling an out-



add that Mr Howard "has a

to attack is denial and refuge in semantic prestidigitation". The only heckling from gov-

Lewis, Mr Howard should have been open with his fellow MPs about his disagreement with Mr Lewis in 1995 over the suspension of the governor of Parkhurst Prison, she claimed. "He could not do so, of course, becausé he had dug a

hole for himself over policy and operations, and he would never have had to dig such a hole had he been prepared to keep the director-general in place." she said. Mr Howard's actions had cost the taxpayer quarter of

should have resigned over the

sacking of the former director

of the Prison Service, Derek

Miss Widdecombe praised which had transformed the Prison Service from a desperate

Widdecombe admitted she civil servants, the Prisons Board and its non-executives urgently advised the then home secretary that he should not sack Mr Lewis. It was for those reasons that two out of four non-executives resigned in protest."

Mr Howard had drawn a distinction between policy and operations at the Prison Service to save himself from the firingline following the Learmont Report, Miss Widdecombe told the House. As a result, she claimed, he misled the House over whether he threatened to instruct Mr Lewis at a meeting over the fate of the Governor of Parkhurst, John Marriott.

She posed these crucial and potentially damaging questions he had not personally told Mr Lewis that Mr Marriott should situation. "It was for those rea- be suspended immediately,

reply in detail to the allegations

before them as a full account? Will he now, in order to clear any doubt at all that may exist the minds of Honourable Members, ask the current Home Secretary to release the full transcript of the meeting?"

Mr Howard, who promised to

was giving the House a full ac-

count when he knows very well

that important issues which

were being discussed in the

House were in fact omitted

from the minutes which he laid

later on in vesterday's debate on home-affairs aspects of the Queen's Speech, was backed by another of his former ministers, David Maclean, who is backing Mr Howard's leadership bid.

It had been a great honour to work with Mr Howard over a five-year period in two different departments, he said. "He is a man of integrity who gets my full respect not because he was my boss but because I helieve he is a decent man and deserves it."

Sinn Fein chiefs bask in glory of being MPs for the day

Chief Political Correspondent

As a day out, Gerry Adams yesterday could recommend his visto the House of Commons.
"Thank you," he told Philip
Wright, the assistant Serjeaniat-Arms, who acted as his minder, "it is the most restful period I've had for 25 years."

Having refused to swear the oath of allegiance to the Queen, Mr Adams and Martin McGuinness could not take their seats in the Commons, or draw their salaries as MPs.

However, they were given their run of the building to enjoy the facilities for 24 hours, be-fore the Speaker's ruling comes into effect denying them the privileges of MPs in the Palace of Westminster.

They were shown the Chamber by Tony Benn, the veteran Labour MP, and the seats they might have occupied had they been prepared to say the oath, even with their fingers crossed.

like Tony Banks.
As MPs for the day, the Sinn
Fein president and his chief negotiator were each issued with House of Commons photo-passes, bearing the distinctive three green stripes accorded to Members, which entitled them to roam at will, without the inconvenience of having to go through the anti-terrorist bomb check at the entrance to the

They did not take advantage of the House of Commons barber for a quick trim, and thought it wise to avoid the MPs rifle range, hut they availed themselves of the subsidised canteen. Sitting on the MPs side of a partition in the oak-lined Strangers' Cafeteria, Mr Adams and Mr McGuinness sat down to a lunch of fried haddock at £2.25 with parmentier potatoes (35p) and swede (35p) and extra helpings

of potatoes for 35p. The Sinn Fein president splashed out on-a small bottle of Côtes du Rhône 1995 red wine for £1.85. while Mr McGuinness had a can of Coke for 35p. After 40 minutes, they went

out for a stroll on the terrace of the House of Commons, overlooking the Thames. They spent 15 minutes in deep conversation, only breaking off to ask when the ITN film crew would

turn up to film them from West-minster Bridge.

A pack of news reporters followed their every step, includ-ing waiting outside the gents. When he re-emerged, Mr Adams was asked for an autograph by one of the constituents in a party following the Tory MP Piers Merchant.

"How can you speak to him?" said one of her friends. "How dare he say hello to me," said another,

Mr Adams continued on his charm offensive with the fourth press conference of the day on the steps of the Commons.
"We didn't come here for concessions. We came here for our rights, and to assert our rights, We are pleased with what we have achieved today."

They had to raise their voices to be heard above a Biblepuncher with a bowler hat, who bellowed out readings from the Old Testament. It was oot Ian Paisley, but the Unionist leader was clearly there in spirit.

Mr Adams today will be re-sponding in detail to the keynote speech on Northern Ireland by Tony Blair. Mr McGuinness, meanwhile, is preparing to lead a Sinn Fein delegation to meet government officials. But their immediate target is the local elections in Northern Ireland tomorrow, which provided the real backdrop for the day trip to the

Howard: I'll submit to a second election contest

Colin Brown Chief Political Correspondent

Michael Howard last night tried to shore up his collapsing lead-ership challenge by letting it be known he would subject himself to a second election if elected as the leader of the Conservative Party by the 164 Tory MPs. Friends said the former home

secretary said he would put himself up for a fresh election if new rules were introduced for a one-member one-vote franchise of the whole party. "He is personally attracted to onemember one vote. That is why he would be prepared to resubmit himself for election were a new set of rules agreed," said a member of the Howard camp.

Mr Howard's campaign was derailed by Ann Widdecombe's allegations, said one right-wing Tory MP. "He has been completely derailed. He won't get any more support now. The interesting thing is how many promised votes he loses."

But there appeared to be unstoppable support growing last night for a wideniog of the franchise after the current election is over. Edward Leigh, a

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Howard: Bid for support

rightwing MP, said he was standing for the chairmanship of the 1922 Committee with a pledge to support one-member one-vote selection of the leader

There was also growing support-for delaying the leadership

election by a couple of weeks to enable the chairmen of Tory associations to have a say in the choice of the new leader, pending more radical changes.

Sir Norman Fowler, a former party chairman, is backing a move by Robin Hodgson, chairman of the voluntary arm of the party, the National Unioo, to enable the chairmen of the associations to carry 20 per cent of the votes in the election. The offer by Tom King to stand as a caretaker leader of the Conservative Party was rejected by John Major and the camps sur-rounding the main candidates for the leadership. "He wants a new leader as soon as possible," said one of Mr Major's

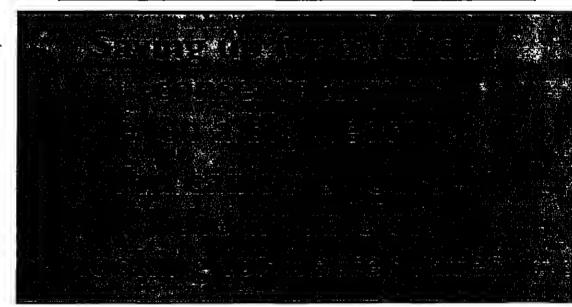
The former defence secretary put himself forward to allow a wider cross-section of the party to have a vote in the selection of the leader. But the idea flopped at Westminster. "It

worlds," said one senior member of the Hague camp. "And it would not stop the cam-

A Howard supporter said: "There will have to be a deal. If we go ahead on June 3 it will look rude to the party associations. We don't want to be accused of riding roughshod over the views of the party." There is growing support for

the leadership rules to he changed to allow one-member one-vote democracy within 18 months, but in return the MPs are demanding a ceotral membership list, and ceatral control over the selection of candidates by the constituencies, to stop "a repeat of Tatton", where Neil Hamilton refused to stand down over sleaze' allegations and lost to Martin Bell. "You can still have coffee mornings, hut we need to modernise the party," said the Howard backer.

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Jeremy Laurance Health Editor

A drive to end inequalities in health and reintroduce fairness to a system that had lost sight of it will be at the centre of the Government's plan for improving the NHS, Frank Dobson, the Secretary of State for Health, said yesterday.

New hospitals, more clinical staff and a focus on the health problems of the disadvantaged were among eight pledges Mr Dobson made, adding: "If we succeed, we will be able to come up with the sound bite Vote Labour, live longer."

However, giving his first public speech as secretary of state. Mr Dobson made it clear that delivering on Labour's pledge to dismantle the internal market would take years rather than months, to allow experiments with alternative arrangements to be tried and evaluated.

Ending "two-tierism" and the other aspects of the internal market would require a "two-stage rocket" with some immediate measures - common hospital waiting lists for patients of all GPs, hoth fund-holders and non-fundholders, is one possibility - while others would take longer,

of am sure most people in the NHS would want us to get on with it quickly, but I am also sure they would like us to get it right," Mr Dobson said.

Speaking to the Royal College of Nursing's annual conference in Harrogate, Mr Dobson announced an end to the unpopular system of local pay un-der which staff in each NHS trust negotiated a local addition to the national pay award.

The system, introduced three years ago and intended to make forces, was suspended last year because of criticism that it was unfair and unwieldy.

Local pay had failed, Mr Dobson said. To applause, he added: "It has proved un-popular and divisive. ft has dissipated goodwill and negotiations have consumed effort vasily disproportionate to the minuscule sums involved."

Renewing his warning that there would he no large pay increases, he said work would begin immediately on devising a new national pay system with appropriate local flexibility". But he refused to spell out what this might mean. The RCN said supplements such as London weighting and those already paid in certain shortage specialties could be extended.

In a speech that was long on symbolism but short on strategy - and rapturously received by his 1.500-strong audience - Mr Dobson declared war on the "gross inequalities in health" associated with poverty, unemployment and homelessuess, a personal commitment he is known to share with Sir Kenneth Calman, the Government's Chief Medical Officer.

Every government depart-ment would he charged with contributing to improving the nation's health, he said. The release of proceeds from council house sales to huild new homes, proposals to get 250,000 young people off the dole and to introduce a national minimum wage were the first steps. "We are committed to a root and branch attack on the things that systematically make our people ill." he said.

Evoking the spirit of an Aneurin Bevan, the NHS's founder, he said that the health service was important not only for the care it provided but also trusts sensitive to local market for the principle of fairness it



Style gurus: Bruce Oidfield watches as supermodel Sarah Thomas and Norwich players Keith O'Neill (left) and Darren Eadle try out the new kit Photograph: Andrew Buurman

Canaries to get designer plumage

Clare Garner

ft may be the only promotion they get for a few years, but at least Norwich City players can relax in the knowledge that they have been elevated to the Premier League of haute cou-

For the Canaries' trademark green and yellow strip has been redesigned by none other than Bruce Oldfield, who has come up with a new, "clutter-free" look for next season.

"It was a question of toning Old look: As worn by Robert Fleck rather than adding things,"

Everything is smaller. The shirts are smaller, the arms are smaller. They just looked like a sack of potatoes before."

The strip, which includes the logo of the First Division chib's new sponsor, Colman's, was modelled by the players, including Darren Eadie, who learnt on Friday that he had been called up to the England squad.

The players did their best to look stylish as they kicked about a football on the catwalk, but it was Sarah Thomas,

said Oldfield at the strip's launch in London yesterday. "ft really is stream-lined. the 17-year-old supermodel, who showed them how it was done. Ms Thomas, who has taken over from Helena Christensen in the latest Cover Girl cosmetics campaign, agreed to fly back from Australia to model the designer creation in

> tickets for herself and her father, Peter. Ms Thomas, a longstanding Canaries fan, believes that Oldfield's strip could catch on, "People will want these as a fashion statement," she said. Asked if she thought the

> colour:combination would be

in vogue this season, she

exchange for two season

never know." Anyone who wants to

acquire an Oldfield label for

their wardrobe can buy the new shirt in August, when it goes on general sale. The designer kit came about after Delia Smith, the

television chef who became director of Norwich City last year, approached Oldfield. At the end of last season morale at the club was "terrible", she said. But now, she added, "We've got the right ingredients". She added: "Today is an important day in the his-

replied optimistically. "You a fabulous new strip and a new sponsor in Colman's, a company with a special link with the city of Norwich and one of the classic English food brands.

Oldfield, whose celebrity clients include Melanie Griffith, Charlotte Rampling, Joanna Lumley, Jerry Hall and Jemima Khan, is bracing himself for the sight of his mud-stained creations after a match. "I was a bit worried

about that," he admitted.
Asked if he was a Norwich City fan, Oldfield joked: "I am now. I was a Middlesborough tory of Norwich City. We have fan, but after Saturday ...

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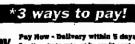
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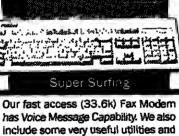


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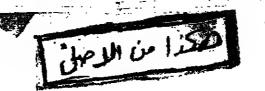
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Jospin defies the odds to give Chirac an unexpected battle

John Lichfield

Five minutes before Lionel Jospin is due to appear, the local Socialist Party organiser is

growing increasingly anxious. Has no one bothered to turn up for the rally because of the long holiday weekend? Has the nationwide electoral sulk reduced the attendance to embarrassingly poor levels? Not a hit of it. His concern is that the Salles des Fêtes might collapse under the weight of people pushing into the old building to see the Socialist Party leader.

"It can't possibly take it," he

mutters. "It'll be a disaster, a dis-

This is Tulle, in Correze, President Chirac's home departement, but still they come pouring in on a sunny, bank-holiday weekeod to see "Lionel". They are mostly middle aged, or elderly, end mostly well-dressed; this is by no means a work-ing class audience. On the other hand, according to local party officials, it is by no means a gothering of ectivists cither.

With less than week to the first round of the French parliameotary elections, Lionel Jospin, even here in the heart of enemy territory, is beginning to pull in the crowds.

The publication of opinioo

polis has been banned since the weekend: the final polls suggested that the loose alliance of the left (Socialists and Communists combined) and the governing coalition of centreright parties are running nock and neck, with around 38 to 40 per cent of the vote each. A couple of polls even put the left lightly airead. The presumption of all the pollsters is that transfers from the far right National Front (which has 13 to 15 per cent) will hand the election to the present government by about 40 seats at the second

round on 1 June. But the electoral arithmetic of turn-out, survival of candidates into the second round, and transfers of votes, is impossibly complex. As Mr Jospin tells the audience in Tulle, no one can be sure of the outcome. "There is still everything to play for ... I cannot tell you who will win, but the pollsters cannot tell

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Crowd-puller: The French Socialist Party leader Lionel Jospin taking time out for a picnic on the campaign trail in Avignon

inis was a snap election which Mr Jospin - unprepared, with a muddled programme, and over-reliant on the Communists - was supposed to have had little chance of winning. The state of the final polls is already a considerable victory for the Socialist Party leader; and a rejection, whatever the final result, of President Chirac's gamble in

If the polls in the final days continue to drift leftwards (they are still taken, although not published in France), the President may yet be forced to send his Alain Juppe, to the political guillotine to appease the crowds.

In the meantime, despite the nationwide lack of interest in the holiday-interrupted elec-tion campaign, Mr Jospin has once again proved himself an clusively effective campaigner. Just like the presidential elec-tion in 1995, he has defied predictions of his early demise. Mr Jospin is likeable rather calling the election nine months

than charismatic; drily precise, almost literary, rather than barnstormingly eloquent. But be manages to convey passion, warmth and wit. By contrast, unpopular .Prime Minister, even the the government's sup-

porters despair of the cold and limp performances of the Prime Minister, Mr Juppé. The centre-right has been badly missing the passion and energy of President Chirac, whose elevated office prevents him from making more than the occasional sortie on to the battlefield.

In Tulle, Mr Jospin amuses the uncomfortably squashed audience by chiding them for coming to see him. The President, in his wisdom, had ordained a short, early poll, interrupted with holiday weekends, he said, so that the French people need not bother their heads with politics. It was very

ungrateful and obstinate of them to turn out for a politician, and especially a man of the left.

However, the Socialist Party leader makes little attempt to defend his own programme: a curious mixture of commitment to markets, Europe and state-reform and reversion to statist solutions (a mandatory 35-hour working week; creating 700,000 jobs for the young, half of them in the public sector). Under pressure from the Communists and radical left, Mr Jospin has moved to a position of EMUscepticism, promising, in effect, to renegotiate the terms of the single curreocy.

if Mr Jospin is the next French Prime Minister - a possibility not yet to be excluded would he swing to the right

again, to accommodate his co-

habitation with President

Chirac? Or would the leftward tug of the Communists and radicals helping to give him a parlia-mentary majority, leave France in a strange left-right, Eu-ropositive-Eurosceptical twi-

Mr Jospin is honest, intelligent, and likes to do what he promises to do. As Prime Minster, he would find it difficult to be all three.

Afghan killings weaken alliance against Taliban

Troops rebelling against a warlord in northern Afghanistan ambushed and killed a provincial governor and 15 of his guards. An uprising egainst the warlurd Rashid Dostum could weaken the alliance fighting the Taliban religious army, which swept into the Afghan capital, Kabul, in September and now controls roughly two-thirds of Afghanistan. Maulyi Abdul Qaddus, governor of Samangan province, and his men were ambushed by troops loyal to Malik Pahlawan, the leader of the rebellion against Mr Dostum.

Nine die in Albanian violence

Nine people were killed in the previous 24 hours across Albania and tension remained high io the southern port of Vlora. Albania's near-anarchy has claimed more thao 700 lives, many accidentally, since state arsenals were looted during unrest in February and March. Two people were killed by masked gunmen at a cafe in Vlora and two passengers in a passing bus were hurt. Tension was high in the town, as one of the victims was the deputy of a local gang leader and a reveoge attack was feared. Frightened Vlora residents have refused to send children to school although two armoured vehicles of the Italian-led multinational force, which is protecting aid supplies, were patrolling the town's ceotral boulevard. Reuters - Vlora

War-crime suspect on rampage

A man suspected of bank robberies and war crimes beat up e news photographer while Serbia's chief of secret police watched, the victim said. Predrag Mitic, of the Drevni Telegraf newspaper, said he was attacked on Sunday while taking pictures of Zeljko Raznatovic, alias Arkan.

Raznatovic and secret police chief Jovica Stanicic were attending a memorial for another senior police official, Radovan Stojicic, who was assassinated last month.

Kurds counter-attack

Kurdish guerrillas launched surprise attacks in south-east Turkey as thousands of Turkish troops chased Kurdish rebels in the Iraqi mountains. The military, which also kept up an offensive inside Turkey, has killed 17 Kurdish guerrillas over the past four days in the south-east, Anatolia news agency said. The rebels briefly blocked a main road linking Diyarbakir to the Iraqi border and burned two oil tankers.

AP - Diyarbakir

Comrade back in Mongolia

The leader of a former hardline Communist Party won Mongolia's presidential election, according to preliminary official results, giving a setback to forces that brought democracy to the country seveo years ago. The victory was seen as a backlash against rapid free-market reforms that the governing coalitioo is using to dismantle the oation's centralised Communist economy. The reforms have sharply raised unemployment and inflation.

AP — Ulan Bator

Anzac donkey gets his gong

A donkey named Murphy was posthumously decorated for hravery, 82 years after it carried wounded Australian soldiers to safety at Gallipoli. In a ceremony cooducted by the Australian Deputy Prime Minister, Tim Fischer, an army donkey mascot called Simpson accepted the Purple Cross Award on Murphy's behalf. Stretcher-bearer John Kirkpatrick and his donkeys, the most famous of which was Murphy, became war heroes for carrying wounded soldiers to safety under Turkish fire at Gallipoli in 1915. Reuters -- Canberra

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No plain sailing in desert island dispute

sailors may have named the is-lands, but the dispute over their ownership is an exclusively

Asian one. China, Taiwan and Vietnam claim the entire group; Brunei, Malaysia and the

Philippines claim parts of it. There are some 40 military

garrisons on the islands, more than half of them Vietnamese,

and all the claimants, apart from Brunei, have at least one airstrip. Several times a year, the

hoisted a flag over the shoal, and

a group of congressmen sailed there and asserted Philippine

vereignty.
In several ways the dispute

looks like a model for the new kind of conflict which is likely to plague East Asia over the

The Spratlys are unimpressive, but these tiny specks of rock could spark an Asian war

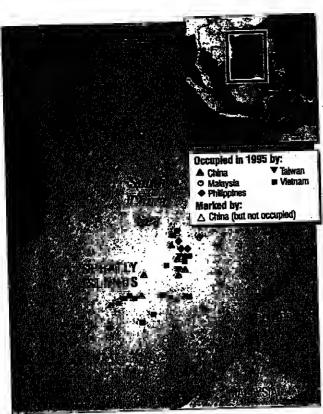
Richard Lloyd Parry On board HMS Illustrious, South China Sea

Spratty Island is scarcely a dot on Sprainy Island is scarcely a dot on the map. This and the other is-lands of the Sprainy group are too low to make much of an impression, even oo radar: the Royal Navy aircraft carrier HMS Illustrious, preseotly on the Asian leg of an eight-month long series of exercises, will steer carefully clear of them, marked oo the charts as Dangerous Ground and speckled with the names of long-dead Englishmen. Up close the islands are hard-

ly more impressive than the dots on the charts on the bridge of the Illustrious - a collection of 230 shoals, spits and reefs spread over 180,000 square kilometres of the South China Sea.

In photographs, the Spratlys resemble the archetypal cartoon desert-island-with-palm-tree, with occasional huts on stilts built as as shelters for passing

But the impression of isolated obscurity is misleading. Io a region that has more than its



share of disputed islands, the Spratlys are the most disputed of all, a stubborn source of teosioo which is looking more and more like a serious obstacle to peace in the region. Unlike the bilateral dis-

Nineteenth-century British

agreement over the Kurile Islands (Russia and Japan) or the trilateral one over the Senkaku/Diaoyu group (Japan, Chioa aod Taiwan), the Spratly problem is a six-way dispute.

Cold War flashpoints, there is no ideological dimensioo to the dispute. Apart from the gar-risons, the Sprathys have no native population to be be won over to one political system or another. The struggle now being waged is for control, oot of people, but of resources in the fastest growing, energy-poorest region in the world. A quarter of the world's shipping passes through this area every year - the Spratlys' position in the middle of the South China Sea thus gives the islands an obvious strategic importance.
The narrow sea lanes of southeast Asia link the established markets of Europe with the fastest growing economies in the world. Seventy per cent of oil consumed by Japan, Korea, Chi-na and Taiwan is tankered through here from the Middle East, a proportion likely to in-

crease to 95 per ceot by 2010. The secret bope of Spratly claimants is that the islands contain large reserves of oil, or at least of oatural gas. Surveys so far bave heen limited and inconclusive. But the islands certainly have ample living re-sources. Half the world's fish supplies are caught in Asia, but growing demand and dwindling stocks are increasing competi-tion between nations. The area around the Sprathys is rich in fish, an important consideration



Naval gazing: A helicopter hovering wearing aircraft carrier HMS lilustrious

for countries like China and Indonesia, with growing popula-tions, but limited arable land. Nor is this just a local problem South-east Asia's rising sta-tus as the fastest economic growth area of the 21st century makes the area's peace and security an international coo-

"We're ill one of the largest trading utions in the world," said a sent officer on the ship, "and this is doubted by the area of the greast economic growth. We'll be assing close eoough that all theountries interested in the islads will know we're there, ancwe'll be making a statementy passing through.

the problem have made little progress, but, militarily, much is bappening. The oavies of south-east Asia have in the past limited themselves to coastal patrol work. All that is quickly changing.

Last week, a couple of Thai admirals visited HMS Illustrious for tips on how to use their own oew aircraft carrier, an acquiPhotograph: Brynn Sharkey

sition which the Chinese are also believed to be planning; Singapore now has a submarine. General Arnulfo Acedera, the Philippines military chief, was asked yesterday whether there was a risk of an armed

confrontation over the islands. "The possibility is there," be said, adding, bluotly: "That's why it's called a flashpoint."

INNOVATING

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Territorial rights: A Chinese flag flying above huts built by the People's Republic to display sovereignty over Mischlef Reef, one of the disputed Spratly Islands Photograph: AP

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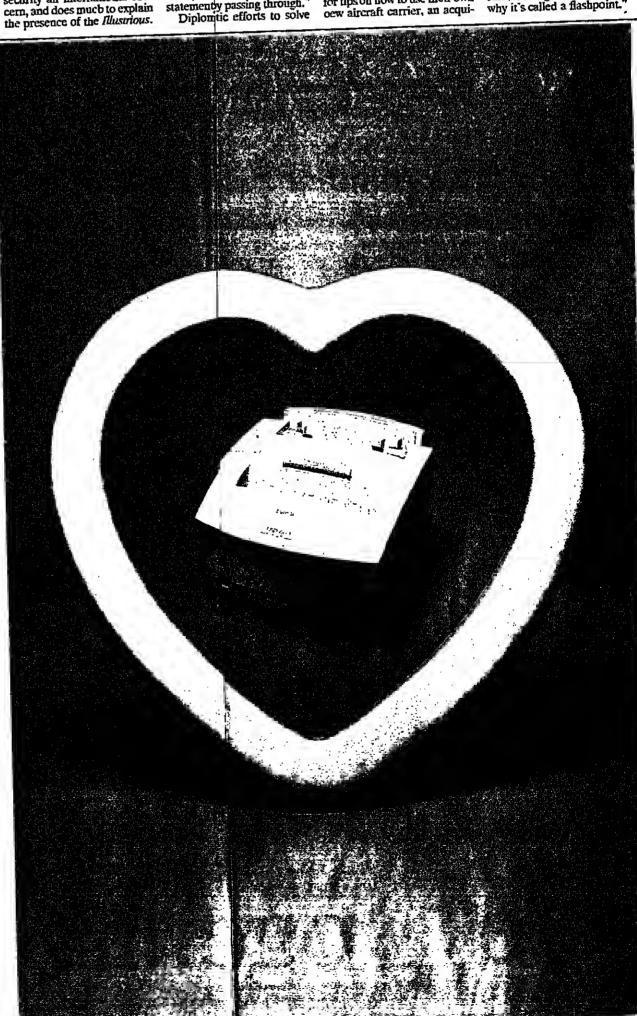
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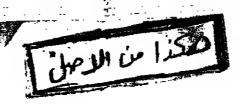
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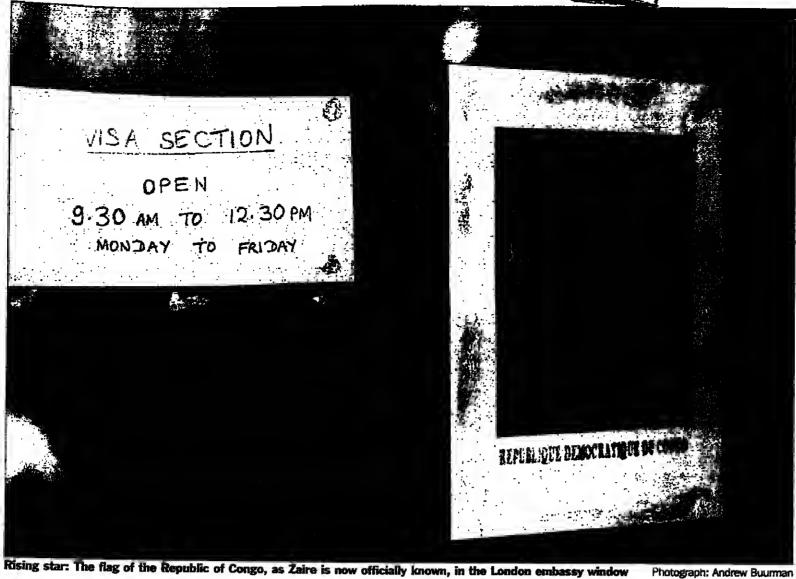




Nerves

22

You wouldn't ! the UK's mo lamous flower anywhere but Chelse:



Nerves fray as Kabila gets down to business at last

There were more than a few nervous suits yesterday wheo Congo-Zaire's new political order started its first full day in Kinshasa by "inviting" the business community to a meeting. at just a few hours' notice.

It was impossible to get rich in the old Zaire without participating in deposed dictator Mobutu Sese Seko's corrupt, bribe-ridden system. The advisers to Zaire's new leader, Laurence Kabila, know that. So did the hundreds of businessmen who dutifully stood in line vesterday to be searched for weapons before meeting their new political masters.

The fattest cats and the biggest thieves went with Mr Moburu, who fled Kinshasa on Friday, just one day before the capital fell to Mr Kabila's rebel forces. But Jean-Pierre Bemba, owner of a cellular telephone company, argues that the country's entire entrepreneurial class was tied up with corruption.

The businessmen who re-main are afraid of being victimised. Mr Bemba, who supports the new government's



Fallen idol: A child defacing a painting of Mobutu Sese Seko in the deposed leader's looted house Photograph: AP

dollars stolen from Zaire by the former president and his cronies, suggests that Mr Kabila

let bygones be bygones. "He should not come with the idea of revenge," said Mr Bemba. "He has to accept working with anybody, even if they worked with the old order. In Zaire you could not get anything done or any paper ap-proved unless you gave money to the administration." If they were to arrest everyone in-

attempts to recover billions of volved in corruption, he pointed out, the jails would be full. In Mr Bemha's case, there is a particularly strong association

with the exilcil Mr Mobutu. His sister is married to one of the

former president's sons. But Mr Bemba has still chosen to stay. For the moment, the greatest concern of the husiness community is the possibility of full-scale nationalisation. At a press conference yesterday Deo ratic election. Mr Kabila has an

suscitation of the country's

But Mr Kabila, a former Marxist whose professed cooversion to the free market took place only recently, has already nationalised the Siza rail network run by the South Africans and Belgians. Other business leaders now fear a similar fate, saying socialist or Communist solutions would be a disaster for Congo-Zaire, a country the size of Western Europe.

A recent document, which purported to come from Mr Kapila's Alliance, outlined plans that would force foreign investors to take Congolese partners, require 15 per cent deposit up front for proposed investment, and a new social obligation for business to fund schools and hospitals. It seems self-evident that Mr Kabila will have with existing businesses for the good of Congo-Zaire.

The city's existing political parties fear they will be frozen from power by the new order, Bugera, the general secretary to army but little political organ-Mr Kabila's Alliance, was short isation. He is under pressure at

home and abroad to bring po-

out to Mr Mobutu. Whether Mr Kabila, a lifelong revolutionary who was oever tainted by the Mobutu regime, will turn out to be a pragmatist or purist, is still unclear. Most observers believe that only a pragmatist has a chance of breathing life into a country rich in minerals and natural resources but devoid of infrastructure - bank-

litical opposition groups into his promised Government for National Salvation. The problem is that Mr Kabila feels that the city's political classes, like the husiness community, had sold

ropt and reduced to ruins by the felon who ruled for 32 years.

At the IGC launch in Turin

after enlargement to the east. Such arguments fuelled fears in Britain of a new march to federalism and the Conservative government set about stalling the the negotiations, arguing

Friday's summit marks the end of the honeymoon with New Labour. writes Sarah

Kissing has to stop

as EU and Blair

strike their deals

Helm in Brussels that the IGC should be viewed more as a 5,000-mile service than a complete overhaul.

hugged more than most) meets his European partners for seri-Today the new Labour government takes essentially the ous negotiation in The Hague. On Friday Tony Blair will attend same view as the Conservatives what the ambitions of the IGC should be. When the new ministers talks

of a "fresh start", they are not advocating massive new powers for the EU institutions. Rather, they are advocating a more co-operative approach

between Britain and Europe, in the bope that, if the venom can be taken out of the relationship, Britain's modest views of how The results of the IGC will be far integration should go will be seen to strike a chord with othsterdam, to be signed oext

be forgiven for losing track of progress in the IGC, which bas been grinding on for 18 months. Britain's new government has itself shown little inclination to examine the details of arcane issues such as vote-weighting, the "third pillar" (including im-migration and judicial co-op-eration) and flexibility, preferring to stick with broad

Since the moment it was elect-

ed, Britain's new government has been furiously flirting with Europe. New Labour minis-ters have been trekking to the

Continent, making lavish promises of warm relations as

they bugged, patted and kissed. Now, suddenly, the period of

courtship is coming to a close, and the time to sign up to a con-

tract is here. Today Robin Cook,

the Foreign Secretary (who has

a mini-summit in the Dutch town of Noordwijk. At both

meetings discussions will shift

gear, as proclamations of good intent give way to detailed examination of treaty texts.

The texts have been pro-

duced during the Inter-Gov-ernmental Conference (IGC)

on European reform - the ne-

gotiations to restructure the European Union's institutions.

written into the Treaty of Am-

month at the Amsterdam sum-

mit. Even the most enthusias-

tic watcher of EU politics could

But the Amsterdam summit is now four weeks away, and the deals struck on the new texts will define Britain's "new relations' with Europe for some time to

in March 1995, beads of government pledged that the reforms they were wanted were to be far-reaching, in order to reshape the Union so it could work effectively as a union of 27,

Cook: faces bantism of fire in

talks today at The Hague

furious when Jacques Santer, the European Commission president, set out his own integrationist agenda in the middle the British election cam-aign. Mr Blair has since made his displeasure with Mr Santer felt by refusing to meet him in the past fortnight, and offering to see him only in the sidelines of the Friday summit.

But whatever Mr Santer may still be saying, the new government's bopes that the ambition of Amsterdam can be tailored

down now look likely to be sat-isfied. Since Turin, a failure to agree in many areas, combined with a growing awareness that the European public has no ap-petite for massive new integration, has forced many leaders to trim their more lofty ambitions. Britain will now find it has allies when it resists on certain

key integrationist points.
For example, the new goverument only wants a limited extension of qualified majority voting (QMV), which would remove national vetoes. Many other member-states are re-luctant to extend QMV in many areas and have failed to agree a list for action. Germany objects to ending unanimity over environment policy, while Spain objects to ending it for decisions on culture policy.

The much-discussed concept

of "flexibility" was hailed as a new mechanism which would allow the Union to integrate faster by give some groups of states the right to pool powers at a different pace from others. Labour has been wary of flexibility, and today the other 14 are also at odds over how it should

The most ambitious programme of integration centres on justice and immigration policy. Labour, like the Conservatives, has insisted on maintaining its frontier controls and opposes giving EU institutions greater powers over justice and immigration.

Most member-states began the IGC discussions by saying that more pooling powers in these areas was vital if the Union was to respond to the new challenges of international crime and asylum-seeking.

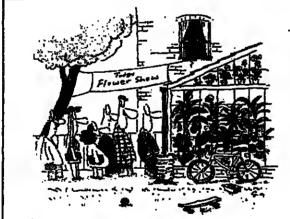
Eighteen months later, however, there is confusion about bow far the "third pillar" will be further integrated. Britain looks certain to secure its opt-out on the issue of frontier cootrols.

The negotiations in the runun to Amsterdam are certain to be tough.

But it is likely that time Mr Blair will next month sign an Amsterdam Treaty which does more resemble a 5,000-mile service than a giant step towards

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Cook flies to **US** to rebuild 'special' bond

Mary Dejevsky Washington

Britain's new Foreign Secretary, Robin Cook, paid a flying visit to Washington yesterday, de-signed to re-cement the "special relationship" after a tetchy five years and convince the US administration that New Labour

is a reliable partner in Nato. Mr Cook's visit, arranged at short notice to precede President Clinton's stopover in Loodon in 10 days' time, included meetings with a top line-up of officials. As protocol required, he met his US opposite number. Madeleine Albright. But he also met the defence secretary, William Cohen, and Mr Clinton's National Security Advis-

er, Sandy Berger. The meetings reflected what one commentator described as the "enthusiastic interest" of the US administration in the new Government's aim of enhancing its standing in Europe.

Of the themes broached during the visit, the durability of the Nato alliance was uppermost, with Europe a close second. The only specific agreement to emerge from the meetings was a declaration on co-ordinating preparations for a conference to determine the fate of gold looted by Nazi Germany and still held in Western banks.

Ireland, which Mr Clinton has put at the top of his agenda for the new British Government, was discussed yesterday, as was Britain's hope that the United States might use whatna to keep a weather eye out for marginalised offshore island".

Hong Kong, after the handover. On Ireland, Mr Cook took pains to correct any idea that Sinn Fein would be included in peace talks, regardless of whether it agreed to a ceasefire. Mr Blair's decision to reopen contacts, Mr Cook said, was designed to ensure that Sinn Fein

"understood" the Government's

position: Sinn Fein could par-

ticipate in peace talks only if it agreed to "a credible ceasefire".

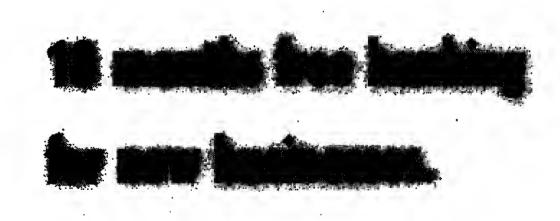
Oo Hong Kong, Mr Cook echoed remarks by Governor Chris Patten, saying that "whatever pressure the US might want to exert on China, for whatever reason", Britain was keen that it should not withdraw most favoured nation (MFN) status from China. This, he said, would only jeopardise the

Hong Kong economy.

Concern about the fulfilment of the Dayton accords for peace in the former Yugoslavia was also expressed during the talks. Mr Cook emphasised that progress had not been as great as had been hoped, but he also said there was no change to Britain's "one out, all out" policy for eventual withdrawal

from Bosnia. In a commentary published in the Washington Post on the eve of his visit, Mr Cook affirmed Britain's commitment to Nato. and he repeated that yesterday, describing the US as "one of our strongest and oldest allies".

On Europe, be said that Britain as "a leading player in Europe" would be "a more useful partner" to the US than one ever influence it has with Chi- that was "drifting into being a



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Chinese rule threatens the legal system

Stephen Vines

Hong Kong

The opening of Hong Kong's legal year with the parade of judges in their long wigs, the barristers in their shorter wigs and the swish of rohes, is almost certain to become a thing of the past. Abandoning this kind of anachronism may well be no had thing: but there is a widespread uncertainty about whether the symbolic changes will he overshadowed hy substantive changes to the legal system.

Elise Leung, who will he the Secretary for Justice in the Special Ádministrative Region of Hong Kong goverment, insists that the basic tenets of an independent judiciary and the rule of law will be preserved, albeit with changes having to be made. "Just give us a chance to prove it works." she requests.

The trouble is that many legal practitioners already have serious misgivings. Margaret Ng. a legislator representing the legal profession, has emerged as one of the most articulate doubters. "I think the system is very vulnerable," she says.

China is finding it difficult to persuade critics that the system will retain its integrity, and the list of pressure points is growing First problems are mounting over the translation and origination of laws in Chinese, as opposed to English. a process started by the current administration.

Miss Ng has no quarrel withthe notion that a community which is overwhelmingly Chinese should be served by laws in the language of the people, but believes that the rush to introduce the Chinese language is roaring away without acknowledging the problems. Moreover, it is undermining the

der the new order. "It would be wonderful to teach the common law to speak Chinese," she says. But concepts of the common law do not readily accommodate themselves to expression in Chinese.

Miss Leung freely admits the use of Chinese is highly problematic. As a lawyer, even she had to refer to English texts to make sure of meanings and interpretations which were not clear in her mother tongue. "We don't want to sacrifice the quality of justice to achieve hi-lingualism." she says.

Under the new system. China's National People's Con-

We don't want to sacrifice the quality of justice to achieve bi-lingualism 9

gress (NPC) has the power of interpreting the Basic Law. Hong Kong's new miniconstitution. Miss Leung says hluntly that "this is a very difficult concept in the common law, because under the common law only the courts have the power of interpretation". In China, interpretation is the responsibility of political bodies.

She believes that the guarantce of a high degree of autonomy in Hong Kong ensures that Chinese bodies will play no more than a minimal role in the territory's legal system, but says "I'm not saying it's going to he an easy thing to

supposed to be maintained un- of the problem is that it remains unclear which aspects of interpretation will reside with the NPC. It is assumed that China will intervene only on issues relating to national security. This may well include political chalnges to the government.

suggestion around town these days," says Miss Ng, "that as far as commercial disputes are con-cerned the old system will remain, and only in political and criminal matters you will have less protection. The two are deeply connected. Once privilege creeps in, the rule of law is at an end."

In a speech to businessmen last October Chris Patten, the Governor of Hong Kong, said "the rule of law is not an op-tional extra. It is what makes Hong Kong different, it is what makes Hong Kong successful.

Already, politics appears to be creeping in. Some eyebrows were raised by the appointment of Miss Leung, a stal-wart supporter of the Peking government and member of the National People's Congress. I can see how the public reacts to it." she says. Further suspicions were aired when Tung Chee Hwa, the new Chief Executive, decided to drop two members of the commission which appoints judges. One was Sir Joseph Hotung, a benefactor of pro-democracy causes; the other was Eleanor Ling, an executive of the Jardines group, the British-controlled company most disliked by China.

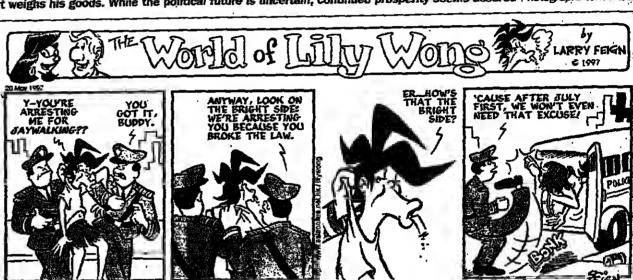
The new commission's first job will he to appoint the Chief Justice. Many say that if the high court judge Benjamin Liu is appointed, the politicisation of the judiciary will be there for all to see. Justice Liu is a member of a fair trial.



one of Hong Kong's most stalwart pro-China families. "If judges are chosen for political correctness", warns Miss Ng, "we will get a hunch of

judges valued not for their legal qualifications hut for political considerations." Although the current legal system is described by some as a paragon virtue, it is not free of critics. Both the judiciary and the gov-ernment's scandal-prone legal department have been embroiled in controversy.

Last week the new legal system was given an unexpected hoost when the United States Supreme Court turned down an appeal by a Hong Kong fugitive who had hitherto heen that the new order could not guarantee



Imagine.

As a business traveller, wouldn't it be great if the airline you fly most often were linked to other major airlines that could fly you anywhere you wanted to go. Smoothly. Effortlessly. Efficiently. Wouldn't it be great if you had access to more airport lounges. And when flying on any of these major airlines, you could

earn mileage points that count towards higher status in any of their frequent flyer programmes. Wouldn't it be great if you could enjoy the same high standards of service whenever and wherever you fly. That's the idea behind Star Alliance,SM a network of SAS, Air Canada, Lufthansa, THAI, and United Airlines. A fundamental

Hong Kong

Chinese government. President

Jiang Zemin entitled his most re-cent major speech, "On Strength-ening Education in Patriotism".

"Furkous hatred of foreign invaders,

boundless disdain for the nation's

scoundrels who sought power and wealth by betraying the country, and

patriots have become nur precious national character," he declared,

Celebrations scale the peak of patriotism

No one can accuse the Chinese of ack of ingenuity in their celebraions in the run-up to the return of Hong Kong, In Peking's Xicheng district, for instance, some 15,000 locals recently turned up for the Welcome the Return of Hong Kong - All Citizens' Exercise Day Mass callisthenies, skipping and lug-of-war were the focus of the patriotic activities.

A group of Chinese university students have set their sights higher. On 18 June they will start climb-ing the north face of the 6.179-metre Jade Pearl mountain in Qinghai province. Hong Kong stu-denl mountaineers will scale the h side. And the two teams will meet on the top on the morning of 1 July, the day Hong Kong reverts

to Chinese sovereignty.
Students at the Tantai University for the Disabled in Shandong province have spent the past 10 months obtaining the signatures of all disabled mainland Chinese, including those abroad, and these have been bound into an album called "Anthology of Aspiration at the return of Hong Kong". There were some 190,000 signatures in toClimbing a mountain is just one way to show how much you care, writes Teresa Poole in Peking

tal, and this week the album was. Kong may start to ruh off on the handed over to government officials

to be sent to Hong Kong. Thus is the mainland gripped by heady anticipation. And the country expects every citizen to show his or her patriotic fervour in some manner. This month, to mark the "50 days to go" point, 1,100 youth league members released 500 doves

into the Peking sky.

Rather more self-restrained, nearly 100 of Peking's literary ligures gathered together to recite po-ems, sing, and paint "to express their happiness at the upcoming return of Hong Kong to the embrace of the motherland". The Communist Parly secretary of the China Writers' Association hailed a China that will "sweep away 100 years' humilia-

The party is pushing patriotism for all its worth, in the hope that some of the population's very real pleasure over the return of Hong visit to Hong Kong. A sample question: In what year did Hong Kong forbid what the newspaper culted "coolie ships" from entering har-bour? 1817 or 1873? (Answer: 1873.1

But it is in the official media that Hong Kong-related propaganda has reached saturation levels. Peking Cable Channel 1 is running 50 episodes on the Basic Law, China's mini-constitution, under which it will rule Hong Kong. China Central Television's main national channel is screening a six-episode series, Hong Kong's Vicissinides, with titles including History's Choice, Way of Return, and Popular Confidence. The Peking Youth Daily is running great reverence for noble-minded

Sometimes it takes a bit of healthy competition to educate the a four-part full-page spread on the history of Hong Kong, followed by a test paper for readers to check they have assimilated the informamasses, and the handover has prompted a flurry of quizzes. Tele-phone the number 2666-1997 in Peking and you will get through to tion. An editorial this week ordered: the Peking Evening News "Knowl-"For every Chinese, we should all edge competition" which will test look back on modern history which your understanding of Hong Kong was full of unbearable huntiliaaffairs. The winners of the twicetion. Looking back is the best way weekly quiz will be rewarded with for us to gain strength and confi-dence today. Modern Chinese hisa set of Hong Kong stamps, and it you are correct in all 20 sets of questory tells the truth; whoever is



Former Gurkha soldiers in Hong Kong have been forced to swap their deadly kukri knives for kitchen knives as they resort to domestic jobs to supplement the meagre censions received for service in the

The Nepalese Alien Association in Hong Kong estimates that more han 200 former soldiers are now ring in the colony as domestic serants; either as cooks, gardeners or

Whereas retired British servicemen receive at least £450 per month m pension payments, the former Surkha soldiers are given just over

The Army insists that this is sufficient for a reasonable existence in Nepal, combined with the lump sum

The Gurkhas' toughest mission is now economic survival. **Stephen Vines** reports

retirement pay of £4,000, and likely savings the soldiers would have made during their service, However, Gurkhas who have relurned from Hong Kong to Nepal

have had difficulty making ends meet and have sought jobs back in the colony. Most have more or less landed on their feet by signing up as security guards. This is viewed as a reasonably-paid job. Jardine Securicor, the main em-

ployer of former Gurkhas, is cutting back its Nepali staff from 720 to 600 men because many of the hig projects they were guarding no longer require their services.

Some have found employment as bodyguards to local tycoons. One very prominent businessmen, whose son was kidnapped for ransom, is said to have 20 former Gurkha sol-

The Gurkhas in Hong Kong used to form the backbone of border patrols deployed to keep out illegal immigrants from China. The juh was arduous and anti-social, as most patrols were out and about in the hours of darkness. Never the less, Hong Kong was a popular posting for the Nepali soldiers.

diers on his payroll.

Having observed the wealth of Hong Kong from their barracks, as

many as 4,000 have returned to try and secure a small slice of it for themselves. They trade on a good reputation for honesty and hard work, but this has proved insufficient to supply adequate employment.

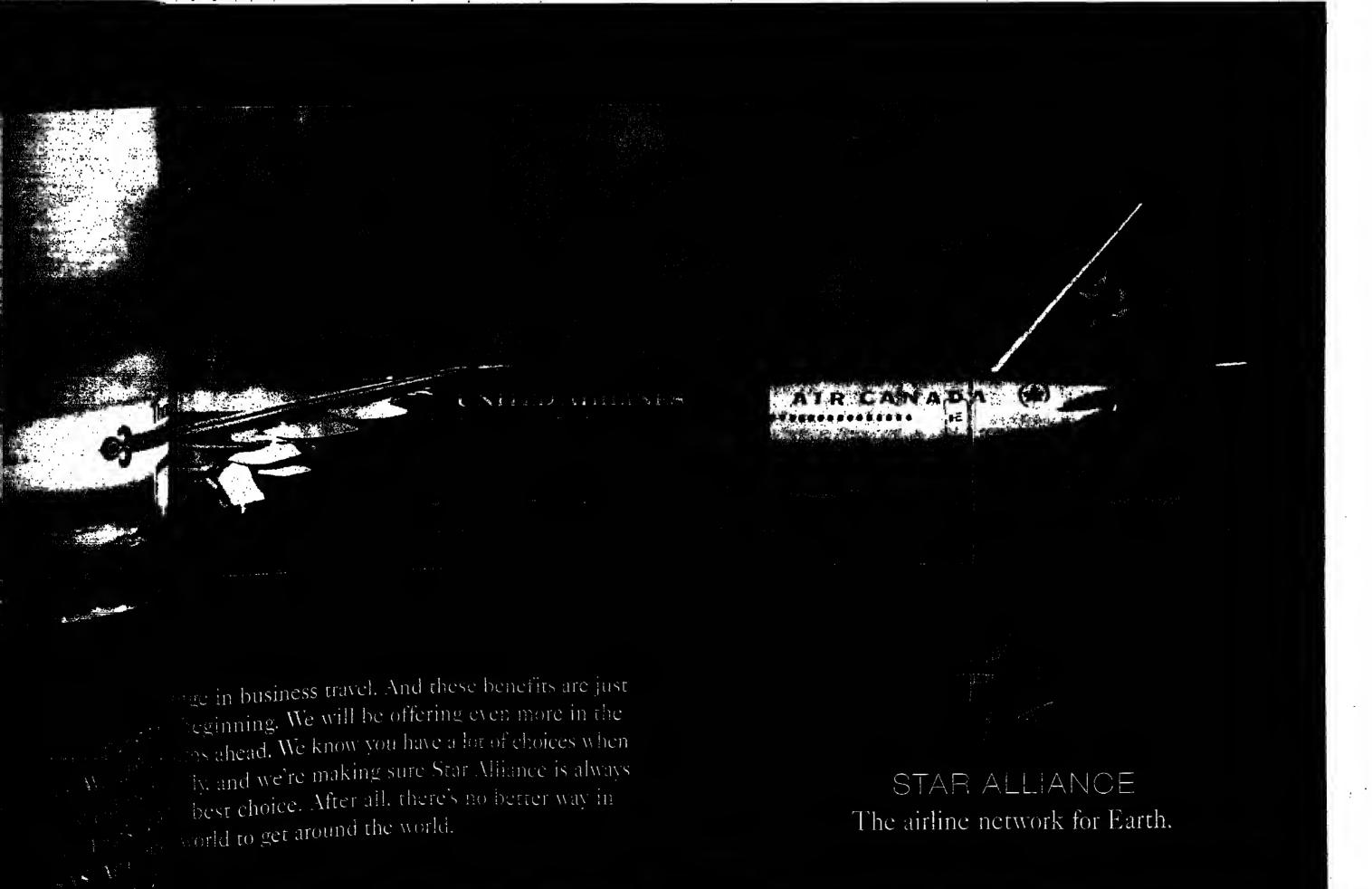
Gurkha groups have long cam-paigned for equal pay with their British counterparts. Last February. the few remaining Nepali soldiers in the British forces scored a major victory by breaking historical precedent and gaining parity in re-muneration. However, pension arrangements remained unchanged.

Discrimination also still applies to curbs on Gurkha soldiers living with their families. Three-quarters of those below the rank of sergeant have to live apart from their



Bright lights, big city: Traffic queues in Hong Kong's thriving Central District

Photograph: Tom Pilston



Norman Carr

Norman Carr shot his 50th elephant on his 20th hirthday when he was a government elephant control officer in Northern Rhodesia. It was a dangerous but necessary joh, for the local tribes depended on what they grew and, if ma-rauding elephants destroyed the crops, the villagers faced hunger and real hardship. Carr was one of four such officers in the country. Of the other three, one died of drink, one after being mauled by a lion and the tombstone of the third reads "Killed by his 350th elephant".

Like the children of many British parents working in the colonies, Carr was sent to England to be educated when he was just six years old. He didn't sec his bekwed Africa or his parents again until he was 17. when he worked briefly in his father's tobacco husiness in Blantyre, Nyasaland, before taking the first opportunity offered to get out into the husb. He was appointed to the Game and Tselse Department of Northern Rhodesia in 1935, as an elephant control officer.

A formidable hunter, Carr was slight of stature, but he was tough and intrepid. "You don't really know a country until you've walked it," he declared as he set out to cover Rhodesia on foot, walking alone for months with just a few tea-bags and some quinine in his knapsack. He lived off the land as he went, gathering the knowledge which would later enable him to set up National Parks for the Rhodesian government and personally train the rangers

After serving as an officer with the King's African Rifles in North Africa during the Second World War. Carr returned to Rhodesia with a new idea perhaps it would be possible for villagers to make money out of protecting, rather than killing, elephants and other animals. He realised that, to make such a scheme work, the people on the

Chief Nsefu in the Northern Province, who was mystified as to why people would want to pay to watch animals but was willing to try the experiment. In 1950, having built six simple rondevaals (mud huts) for overnight sheher. Carr brought the first visitors from Chipeta, a town 100 miles away. They shot with cameras instead of rifles and during the first year paid the chief and his council the then substantial sum of £100 for the privilege. Ecotourism in Africa was born. The first National Park Carr

established was Kafue, where he became warden. Matching the example being set by Joy and George Adamson, he rehabilitated back into the wild lion cubs whose mother had been shot. Although the cubs learnt to kill and live off their hunting, the experiment was perhaps not altogether successful, as one hirdwatcher reported. He had driven into a remote area of the park and sat looking through his binoculars when a great lion appeared and pinned him down by sitting on his lap.

When Northern Rhodesia became the independent Republic of Zamhia in 1964, Carr had no difficulty in deciding to stay on: he remembered with distress his early hanishment to a country with very little sunshine or space. Not that Zamhia was without its frustration. "Bureaucracy thrives and there is no word for maintenance in any of the local languages. But if I get fed up," he said, "I just remember Regent Street with all its noise and pollution. That calms me down.

Carr wrote several books, all illustrating his love and knowledge of Zamhia. The first three. Return to the Wild (1962). The White Impala (1969) and Valley of the Elephants (1972) were published in the UK and the last, Kakuli was published last year in Zimbabwe. Kakuli is the affectionate name by which the locals called him - it means "Old Buffalo".

land would have to benefit di-rectly. He spoke to Paramount

His success in setting up the National Parks was in part due



Photograph: Huiton Getty ne warden Nelson Chilangwa in Trafalgar Square, 1962, promoting Carr's book Return to the Wild

to the good relationship Carr developed with the Rhodesian and later the Zamhian government. He had befriended Kenneth Kaunda and introduced him to the richness of the country's wildlife before he became president in 1964. Kaunda had a small lodge in the Luangwa Valley and continued to visit Carr regularly. Prince Andrew, the Duke of Edinburgh and Prince Bernhard of the Netherlands were also visitors.

The Luarigwa Valley Na-tional Park, which Carr established and worked in from 1960, is rich in game and it was there, after he retired from the Game Department, that he chose to live and set up Kapani, his own tourist camp just outside the park gates, situated by an oxbow lagoon. During the day the hirdlife on the water is a never-ending fascination. At night,

dawn chorus is always aided by the raucous honking of hippos. He also had a small camp deep in the bush for serious walkers. There the buts were so flimsy that when you lay in bed you could hear the lions breathing as they padded around explor-

ing the human smells.

At the camp one Christmas morning, Carr took out a family on foot while the cook prepared dinner. They stumbled on a lioness with cuhs and had to beat a basty retreat up a tree while she paced angrily below. They were trapped for hours until a rescue party found them. He received a card every year thereafter from the family "in remembrance of the most exciting Christmas we have ever spent".

Going out on safari with Norman Carr was always an exciting adventure. His vast elephants, lions and giraffes knowledge and experience often visit the camp and the meant be could sense in adknowledge and experience

vance what was going on so be might take you in the evening to where 50 elephant were fording the river to seek hetter feeding ground; the babies completely submerged beld their trunks aloft like snorkels. But the Luangwa Valley is still a wild land with ever-present dangers and Carr never underestimated them nor was he too proud

to beat a retreat. Alarm at the devastation caused in Africa by poachers prompted Carr 10 set up the Rhino Trust in 1970 which later passed into the care of the Worldwide Fund for Nature. After he was appointed MBE for his life's work, Carr suggested the conservation award should really have gone to the tsetse fly. In areas from which the fly had been banished, cattle are brought in to graze and people take over. Where the tsetse fly continues to flourish so does

Carr was determined that tourism should not corrupt the local villagers and although he gladly took visitors right into the poorest areas, he would never allow tipping. However he encouraged donations for the local school which be sponsored. paying for uniforms, books and sports equipment. Twice a month he took parties of school children into the park to show them their heritage and teach them the names of the animals so they no longer callled them all "innma" which means "meat". It is to this Kapani School Fund that donations in memory of Norman Carr are

being directed. Lynn ten Kate

Norman Joseph Carr, conservationist: born Chinde. Portuguese East Africa 19 July 1912; married 1940 Barbara Lennon (one son, two daughters); died Johannesburg I April 1997.

Toshiro Mayuzumi

Like truly elegant fashions, the finest musical scores for films at the Paris Conservatoire. But, finest musical scores for films are those that do not draw attention to their brilliance, and let the pictures speak for

So it was that in the 1950s and 1960s in Japan I was listening to some of the most original and inventive music of our time as I watched masterpieces by the directors Akira Kurosawa, Shohei Imamura and Yasujiro Ozu - not to mennon The Bible by John Huston, in which Japanese subtitles often obscured half the screen. The sounds I almost subliminally perceived in jam-packed cinemas were the exquisite experiments of a young avant-garde composer, Toshiro Mavuzumi.

Among those immortal movies scored by Mayuzumi were my first Imamura - his 1958 Nusumareta Yokujo ("Stolen Desire") - Kin Ichikawa's Enjo ("The Brazier") of the same year, Yasujiro Ozu's Ohayo! ("Good Morning!" 1959), Tadashi Imai's Bushido Zankoku Mono-guari ("Cruel Tales of Bushido", 1963) and three of Imamura's finest works, Nippon Konchuki ("Insect Woman", 1963), Jun-ruigaku Myumon ("The Poraog-rapher", 1965, based on Akiyuki Nosaka's comic novel), and Kamisani no Fukaki Yokubo "Profound Desire of the Gods7, 1968).

Mayuzumi worked on nearall Imamura's films, until the outrage he felt at the themes of later ones, offensive to Mayuzumi's right-wing nationalist views, destroyed a per-

fect partnership. However, he was not just a highly gifted composer of film scores for both Japanese and foreign companies - he was a great musical genius in all fields from symphonic poems to opera, a passionate, eloquent supporter of nationalism, and a man whose life was as interesting as his work,

He graduated from Tokyo University of Fine Arts and Mu-sic in 1951. He had already won, in 1950, the third Mainichi Concours Music Prize for the music he composed to accompany Hideo Oba's film of Jiro Osaragi's novel Kikyo ("Homecoming"), his first film score, already perfect in its conception.

He had been influenced by his teacher. Fumio Hayasaka, who in 1934 had founded the iconoclastic Shin Ongaku Remmel (New Music League) with the aim of creating a tru-ly "Eastern Style" instead of aping Western musical traditions. He taught Mayuzumi ways in which to contribute to contemporary music developments by experimentation various Mayuzumi was to follow all

Hayasaka was also chief musical director at Tobo Film Studios, and it was through him that Mayuzumi was engaged to write his first score for that company, Keisuke Kinoshita's 1951 Kanımen Kokyo ni Kaanı ("Catmen's Return Home"), the first Japanese colour film, starring an chullient young Hideko Takamine and underscored by witty tango tempos. Then came Shiosni ("The Sound of Waves"), 1954, a novel adaptation of the legend of Daphnis and Chloe hy Yukio Mishima. who was to play an important part in the composer's life and

political thought. Before that, Mayuzumi had spent a couple of years (1951afraid that the study of classic cal music theory would destroy his awakening individual techniques of composition, he dropped out of the course - a decision he was later to regret. By early 1953, Mayuzumi was back in Tokyo, teaching at the Music School of the University of Fine Arts. He composed and performed his first musique concrète piece, XYZ, and, with his fellow-composers Ikuma Dan and Yasushi Akutagawa, combined to form a musical collaboration known as the Group

of Three.

Mayuzumi had experimented with 12-tone composition in his Mikrokosmos (1952) and went on to follow the techniques of John Cage by using "prepared" instruments and introducing the first examples of electronic music in Japan, learnt from his Paris days with avantgarde researchers like Pierre Schaefer and his collaborate Pierre Henry, the German Herbert Eimer and Karlheinz Stockhausen, and the younger Frenchmen lannis Xenakis and Pierre Boulez. These were all technological wizards, artists of the vacuum tube, the electronic device generating and synthesising electron beams. Mayuzumi also experimented with random aleatoric improvisations.

But, having mastered and improved on avant-garde musical styles. Mayuzumi found himself increasingly drawn hack to the traditional music of his own land, including ancient court music (gagakat) and Buddhist chants (shomyo). His 1958 Nehan ("Nirvana") was the first big step in this direc-tion, using the traditional Japanese sounds of shomyo. It won the Odaka Prize.

The New York City Ballet commissioned him to write the music for their 1961 success Bugnku (an ancient court dance to gagaku themes). He wrote two operas on distinct?
Japanese subjects: one of which, Kinkakuji (1976), based on Yukio Mishima's novel. was performed at the Berlin Japan Festival by the Berlin Philharmonic conducted by Akio Watanahe. Mayazumi composed two oratorios on Buddhist themes: Keka ("Re-pentance", 1963), and Nichiren

honin ("Saint Nicbiren"). He became known to a wider public by his weekly television music programmes, starting in April 1966, and running for 1,530 performances. These were delightful essays in musical enlightenment, in which he surprisingly defended the beauties of enka (popular sentimental song) with its kobushi or natural form of the electronic medium.

Mayuzumi was well known for his passionate outspokenness and virtuoso eloquence in the defence of nationalism. He founded and was president of the right-wing People's Congress for the Protection of Japan, which objected energetically to the rewriting of Japanese history textbooks. His stance angered a lot of liberals. But the main thing was his wonderful music. He was awarded in 1961 the high honour of the Purple Award of

James Kirkua Toshiro Mayuzumi, composer:

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Pat Hughes

Pat Hughes was regarded as one of the finest tennis doubles players of his time. He won a always deceptive. No two would string of titles with various partners from the late Twenties to the outhreak of the Second World War.

His greatest achievement was winning the Wimbledon doubles with Charles Tuckey in 1936 when they beat another British pair, Charles Hare and Frank Wilde, 6-4, 3-6, 7-9, 6-1, 6-4. Hughes had previously won the French doubles with Fred Perry in 1933, and the Australian title, also with Perry, in 1934. Only the US title eluded

him for the Grand Slam. Born at Sutton Coldfield in 1902, Hughes was taken to Belfast as a child, where he was introduced to tennis at school, He practised consistently and never missed an opportunity of watching the great players of his in that he is the only Englishday. He developed a mixture of spins with his service and was singles. That was in 1931 when also an expert volleyer and most effective with the lohs.

He was not regarded as a great server, but his serve was come down alike, even though they looked the same. He also had a great return of serve which often shook the heavier

servers and helped to break up Returning from Belfast, Hughes studied at the London School of Economics. While there he pursued his interest in tennis, and visited Wimbledon as often as possible. He first came to public attention through a tournament run by the London Evening News and

never looked back. Although he reached No 3 in singles in Britain, it was as a doubles player that Hughes became most prominent. He has. however, one singles record which still stand the test of time. man to have won the Italian

same year Hughes also won the Italian doubles and mixed doubles.

After gaining his degree in economics be took a post as lec-turer at Southampton Univer-took over, but Hughes always sity. He subsequently held an appointment in the National State Bank in New York, but the call of tennis became so strong that he decided to devote his life to it, not only as a player hut also as the director and tennis manager of Dunlop Sports. Tennis had opened up a new world for Wherever tennis was played Hughes would find his way there - his career became like a world travel guide.

Hughes came up in the era that produced Fred Perry, Bun-ny Austin, Charles Tuckey, Harry Lee, and Henry Billington. the grandfather of Britain's current hope Tim Henman.
Along with Perry. Austin and Tuckey, Hughes helped take the Davis Cup from France in 1933 he heat the great French star and keep it for the next four Henri Cochet in the final. The years. He was ill in 1937 when.

Honoré de Balzac (Balssa), novelist,

1790; William George Furgo, a founder of Wells, Fargo, 1818; Moshe Dayan, military commander, 1915.

Deaths: Christopher Columbus, explorer and navigator, 1506; John Clare, farmer and poet, 1864; William Chambers, stuther and publisher. 1883; Sir Max (Henry Maxi-

milian) Beerbohm, caricaturist and writer, 1956: Dame Jocelyn Barbara Hepworth, sculptor, 1975. On this day: Ascension Island was discovered by the navigator, João da Nova Castell, 1501; York Minster was badhy defensed following a fixence of the control of the

badly damaged following a fire, 1840; the foundation slone of the

Royal Albert Hall was laid. 1867; Amelia Earhart was the first woman

to make a solo crossing of the Atlantic,

1932; the first US hydrogen bomb was dropped over Bikini atoll, 1956. To-

day is the Feast Day of SI Austreg-isilus or Outrill St Basilla or Basilissa, SI Baudelius, St Bernardino of Siena, SI Ethelbert and Saints Thalelaeus,

Victoria and Albert Museum: Sarah

Searight, "Garden of Paradise: flo-ral themes in Iranian art (i)", 2.30pm.

Tate Galtery: Tim Green, The Restoration of Gainsborough's Gyp-sy Encampment at Storset", 1pm. British Museum: Henrietta McCall,

"Method in Mesopotamia: the life and times of Sir Max Mallowan".

Asterius, Alexander and Others.

Lectures

after Perry had turned professional, Britain lost the cup to the United States.

Those were the days of the advocated open terms and in his capacity as tennis manager at Dunlop, helped arrange many exhibitions, For Hughes, the team always'came hefore personal glory, which is of course in keeping with a top-class doubles player.

Hughes was a great friend of Lew Hoad, the Australian play-er, and used to spend his winters with him in Spain. A man of good fun, more so when abroad, Hughes was also a very private man. He never married and in his later years lived in Walton-on-Thames.

Bill Edwards

George Patrick Hughes, tennis player: born Sutton Coldfield, West Midlands 21 December 1902; died Walton-on-Thames, Surrey 8 May 1997.

18th-century London: West, Copley,

Stuart", 1.10pm. Exeter University (Boundy Memo-

rial Lecture): Dr Alastair Logan.

"Christian Identity in Terms of Knowledge and Belief", 5.15pm.

RIBA Architecture Centre, London

W1: Dr Robert Kronenburg, "Ar-

chitecture of the Ephemeral".

Royal Society, London SWI: Pro-

fessor Vidal Ashkenazi, "The Impact

of Global Positioning Systems on Fu-ture Navigatioo", 5.30pm. London School of Economics (Ma-

linowski Memorial Lecture). London

WC2: Dr Barbara Bodenhorn, " If Malinowski Met Boas in Barrow ...

Looking Across the Boundaries of Fieldwork from the 1890s to the

Mr Bill Cowen, President, Rotary

Club of London, presided at a lun-cheon held yesterday at the Portman

Hotel, Loodon W1, Mr Ian Barclay

Director, Action Trust for the Blind.

Royal Over-Seas League

Sir John Stokes was the guest speaker at a meeting of the Royal Over-Seas Lengue's Discussion Circle held

yesterday evening at Over-Seas House, St James's, London SW1. His

subject was "A Return to Traditionat Values". Mrs Elizabeth Cresswell

Luncheons

was the speaker.

Rotary Clab of London



Disabled persons' holiday policy unlawful

Council, ex parte Hargreaves; Queen's Beuch Division Crown Office List (Mr Justice Latham) 16 May 1997

A council's policy in relation to the provision of financial assistance for holidays for disabled persons, by which it met only the additional costs of the hnliday resulting from the disability and not the basic costs of the disabled person's holiday,

was unlawful. Mr Justice Latham declared the council's policy to be unlawful, and quashed its decision not to provide assistance in relarion to the basic holiday costs of the applicant's disabled

sister. In accordance with its policy the council had decided to make financial assistance for a holiday available to the applicant, as his sister's carer, con-sisting of his full board and travel costs, and a contribution to the overall travel costs of the holiday. No assistance was provided in relation to his sister's basic holiday costs.

Jennifer Richards (Crombie Wilkinson) for the opplicant; Roger Mc-Carthy (Council Solicitor) for the

the short point taken on behalf of the applicant was that the council having identified his sister's need as the requirement for a two week holiday, its obligation under section 2(1)(f) of LAW REPORT

20 May 1997

the Chronically Sick and Disthat the legislation was not intended to provide relief from ahled Persons Act 1970 to "facilitiate" that holiday should poverty, but relief from the include consideration of some provision for the basic cost of

that holiday. The applicant accepted that the ohligation was one which which gave a discretion to the council. That would not have been the case if the obligation had heen to "provide" a holiday, which was the word used in relation to other services identified in section 2(1) of the 1970 Act.

He suhmitted, however, that by excluding the basic cost of the holiday to the disabled person, the council had unwfully fettered its discretion. The council contended that

the intention of Parliament was not to relieve poverty, which was the province of other statutory provisions, but to relieve disabled persons so far as possible of the added fi-nancial burden imposed by their disability.

The council's ohligations

could not include an obligation to "facilitate" by the provision of the ordinary cost of a holiday which any person, whether disabled or not, would be expected to meet out of their own funds.

The applicant's submission. was correct. The respondent's principal argument, namely funding for the holiday.

extra expense of disability, begged the question. If the council had determined, as in the present case, that the need for the holiday was a result of the disability, then the cost of the holiday to the disabled person must be capahle of heing an additional cost which was the result of the

disahility. That view was reinforced by the fact that section 2(1)(f) of the 1970 Act envisaged that a holiday might he "facilitated" hy heing "provided" under arrangements made by the council. In other words, the statute envisaged a situation in which the statutory ohligation could be met entirely out of the

council's own resources.

By section 17 of the Health and Social Services and Social Security Adjudication Act 1983, if such provision were to be made by a council, the council could only recover the cost of the hollday if the means of the recipient of the service were insufficient to

meet the cost. The corollory of that must be that, if the holiday was arranged by or on behalf of the disabled person himself, that person's means should be a relevant factor in any decision as

to whether or not to provide

born Yokohama, Japan 1929:

died Kawasaki 10 April 1997.

It followed that the policy adopted by the council unlawfully fettered its discretion, and the decision based upon that policy was flawed and must be quashed. That would not, however, inevitably result in a different decision in relation to the applicant's sister. The council might well wish to reassess her needs, both because of the passage of time and the decision of the House of Lords in Rv Gloucestershire County Council, ex parte Barry (Law Report, 9 April 1997) [1997] 2 WLR 459. The council had submitted

that, whatever his Lordship's view about the construction of section 2 of the 1970 Act and the lawfulness of its policy, the Community Care (Direct Pay-ments) Act 1996 provided a practical solution to the problem. It empowered local authorities to make direct payments for those in need of community care services, but made no change to the criteria which were to be applied in determining what services were "needed".

Unless, therefore, the council's decision were quashed and more parucularly its policy declared unlawful, its mistaken approach to its statulory obligation to the applicant's sis ter, and the argument between the applicant and the council, could be perpetuated.

Kate O'Hanlon, Barrister

Births, Marriages & Deaths BIRTHS

MONEY-KYRLE: On 9 April, at Queen Charlotte's Hospital, to Rachel (Napthine) and Oliver, a beloved daughter, Isobel Marlene Clare. RUSHTON: On 30 April, at the Roy-al Berkshire Hospital, 10 Susan (nee Butler) and Jonathan, a son, Benjamin James, a brother lot Adam.

DEATHS

OGATHS

3 OYAN: Dom John Bernard, monk of Ampleforati: 17 May, peacefully, after a long illness, fortified by the rites of the Church. Funeral. Thursday 22 May, 12 noon, at Ampleforth.

BRADY: Dr Philip Valentine, died peacefully on 15 May 1997 at Charling Cross Hospital, after a long illness, borne with great courage. Funeral on Thursday 22 May 1997, 12 30pm, at Putney Vale Crematorium. Philip's family would like to express their profound gratitude to the Charing Cross and Hammersmith Hospitals, for their marvellous care and support. Donations in lieu of flowers to Imperial Cancer Research Fund. W.S. Bond, Chiswick, 0181-94 0277.

LARWOOD: Gibbert, died peacefully on

Bond, Chiswick, 0181-944 (277, LARWOOD: Gilbert, died peacefully on 14 May, after a short illness. Belowed husband of Julia, much-lowed father of Jonathan and Flossie, grandfather of Ollie, dearest friend to Fietra and lowed by all who knew him, Fuoeral ceremony at Durham Crematorium on Friday 23 May at 1 pm. No flowers, Donntions to the British Heart Foundation.

LOW: Duphne Earland, peacefully, on 16 May 1997. Widow of Roger Low, much-loved mother of Marcus and Valentine. Funeral at Honor Oak Cremotorium, Brenchlev Gardens, London SE23, on Thursday 22 May, at 12 noon. Flowers to Ashion Funeral Services, 218 Kennington Park Road Loadon SE11.

For Gazette, telephone 0171-293 2012.

Birthdays

Mr Tim Aibery, opera director, 45; General Sir Hugh Beach, 74; Sir General Sir Hugh Beach, 74; Sir David Berriman, former chairman, North East Thames Regional Health Authority, 69; Mr Graham Brady MP, 30; Sir Robert Bunyard, former HM Inspector of Constabulary, 67; Dr Sir Chillord Butler, former Vice-Chancellor, Loughborough University of Technology, 75; Professor Henry Cadbury-Brown, architect, 84; Professor Ian Cameron, Provost 84; Professor Ian Cameron, Provost, University of Wales College of Med-icine, 61; The Rev Professor Sir Oweo Chadwick, former Master, Schwyn College, Cambridge, 81; Cher, singer and actress, 51; Fil-Li John Cruickshank VC, banker, 77; Mr Lynn Chadward, 1988, 1 Mr Lynn Davies, athlete, 55; Mr Greg Dyke, chairman and chief executive. Pearson Television, 50; Mr Reith Fletcher, cricketer, 53; Surgeon Vice-Admiral Sir John Harrison, 76; Lord Hollich et ich Hollick, chief executive, United Hollick, chief executive, United News and Media pic. 52; The Very Rev Professor John McIntyre, theologian, 81; Mr Jeremy Nichols. Headmaster, Stowe School, 54; Mr Peter Shore, former MP, 73; Sir William Simpson, former trade union leader, 77; Mr James Stewart, actor, 89; Sir Jain Vallance, chairman, British Telecom, 54; Mr Michael Sr Iam Vallance, chairman.
British Telecom, 54; Mr Michael
Wills MP, 45; Captain David
Younger, Lord-Lieuteoant of
Tweeddale, 58.

Anniversaries

Births: Sir Henry Percy (Harry Hol-spur), soldier and politician, 1364;

ROYAL ENGÁGEMENTS The Duke of Edinburgh, Patron-in-Chiel, Victory (Services) Association, attends a function at the Victory Services Chib, London W2, and as Grand President, chairs a Council Meeting of the British Commonwealth Ex-Services League at Buck-instant Patient. The Princess Result name ingham Palace. The Princess Royal opens "The Princess Royal Distribution Centre". Stonebridge Park, London NW10: as

1.15pm. National Portrait Gallery: Wendy Neisoo-Cave, "American Painters in President, Save the Children Fund, amends a reception for Key Donors (Trusts) at the Institute of Contemporary Arts, London SW 1: and opens the Museum of London's exhibition "in Royal Fash ion: the clothing of Princers Charlette of Wales and Queen Victoria 1796-1911" at the Museum of London Levy London ECP.

don, London EC2. Princess Margaret vis-its the Orders of St John Trust Central

Home at Beckside, North Hykeham, and opens the new Day Centre at Digby Court, Bourne, Lincolnshire, Changing of the Guard

The Household Cavairy Mounted Regiment mounts the Queen's Life Guard at Horse Guards, Ham; Ist Boualion Scots Guards mounts the Oueen's Guard, at Mr Justice Latham said that

Jest villed

Mish refuge

wes lives

Algerian :

Blair's Roundheads are too cavalier with the bans

the new government is exhibiting mately unworkable the statutes, the distinct Roundhead tendencies. Intention was to throw the weight of the If Tony ("call me Oliver") Blair state into stopping behaviour. has long had Cromwellian leanings in the way he runs the Labour Party, it is only recently that Home Secretary Jack Straw has been trying on Colonel Fairfax's uniform.

During the past few days Labour's New Model Army has been proposing to kill various joys and severely restrict others. After alcopops, the weed: the Government's instinct is to reach for leg-islative prohibition. Yesterday the Health Secretary, Frank Dobson, said that as well as banning tobacco advertising, the Government intends to proscribe sponsorship by cigarette companies.

The alcohol and tobacco industries are not backward in coming forward and they will shout long and exaggeratedly. But they must not try to play the "socialist" card. Labour's leaders are nothing if not adepts of Thatcherism. One of the ingredients of that strong rew, and the weaker potion stirred by John Major, was a willingness to throw the statute book at "problems". Thatcherism was authoritarian. It wantonly extended police powers and added chapters to the criminal code. The Tories were all for banning: dogs, raves, travellers, football fans, homosexuals. From the Dangerous Dogs Act to Section 28 of the Local Government Act 1987 we have examples of government by fiat; however badly drafted and ulti-

Labour may repeal some of these Tory statutes, and will burnish its liberal credentials if it does. But its instincts already appear worryingly similar: instead of persuasion, legislative nannying; instead of fiscal incentives, blanket bans. Take alcopops. It is the case that alcohol is a noxious drug. It is a factor in household accidents and abuse, in death and mayhem on the roads, violence among the young, and disease and deterioration among the old. It is also an essential lubricant of our kind of society and - this is the clincher - the point at which individuals must be allowed to choose to go to heaven or hell in their own way, and choose, too, whether to bring up their children well or badly. Children who are badly supervised, who live outside the bonds of family trust, will find ways to drink, smoke and otherwise misbehave. That the drinks industry has a product engineered to look and taste like corbonated sweet drinks does nothing, in itself, to predis-pose teenagers to defy their parents or abandon their own sense of right. We have reason to worry about standards of parenting and the quality of supervision of young people but that ought not to justify proscribing a commercial product which is otherwise entirely legal.



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making conduct associated with cigarettes (such as advertising or sponsoring racing cars) illegal but refusing to contemplate proscribing the action itself. Smoking affects other people in enclosed spaces; no one should be forced to smoke passively. These precepts justify banning smoking in planes and (sections of) restaurants. But preventing Embassy sponsoring snooker or Benson and Hedges sponsoring golf feels like an intrusion on everyone. The tobacco companies may have quite cynically bought their way into public affection by their heavy investment in sports, but there it is: cigarette money con-

tributes mightily to the diversity of sport, to widening fields of attainment and so to the greater pleasure of the par-ticipating and watching public. That fact has also to be weighed in the balance.

To argue this way is of course not to condone an activity with such harmful individual effects and substantial social costs. But what the state should be doing is sharpening the individual calculus: for example, wondering whether the time has now come for the NHS to charge smokers, downgrading its work on lung cancer (insofar as it is self-induced), and visiting on individuals and their relatives the consequences of their behaviour.

Government operates inside a balance of liberties and proscriptions. Tony Blair is in tune with public opinion and right in principle to move swiftly to ban entirely the private ownership of hand guns. On good Millite principles, weapons should be strictly controlled: their purpose is to inflict harm, potentially on other people, and any sporting activity is not only still possible, but any-way incidental. What New Labour needs to do is work case by case. Blairites should be careful of reaching for the parhamentary draftsman every time.

These next few months are going to offer plenty of other occasions when the case for state intervention will need the most thorough examination and debate. Take the export of live calves. Again, a range of considerations applies, from the commercial advantage of British farmers to the enjoyment of Italian con-sumers. In a civilised country - a consideration independent of debate about how far animals are sentient - animals ought to be treated in a civilised way. A key question becomes whether it is possible to transport live calves by truck humanely and still make the trade viable. It is for government to specify standards and for the state to insist that animals are well treated. But, respecting the diversity of public views, government must strive to avoid blanket bans.

Before long another vexed animal issue will show New Labour in its true colours: the future of fox hunting.

Labour MPs should reflect. Demonstrating vociferously against hunting, persuading landowners to refuse permission for their land to be hunted over. and execrating the cult of ritual slaughter are legitimate tactics for opponents to use. But they stop well short of using the power of the state to ban the activity. That would be oppressive. New Labour Cromwellians should remember with what enthusiasm the Cavalier king was welcomed back. Puritanism is only ever one swing of a long pendulum.

We thank you, Ms Widdecombe

There should be no mistaking the sig-nificance of Ann Widdecombe's onslaught on Michael Howard yesterday. Forget the fact that her own hands are hardly clean: as she admitted, she should have resigned months ago. Forget the personal animus. This was not eventually about Michael Howard or Derek Lewis. What the former prisons minister illustrated was constitutional failure: the incapacity of the House of Commons to hold the executive properly to account. MPs are regularly hoodwinked and fobbed off. Ms Widdecombe deserves the thanks of everyone concerned to reform the way the country is run.

• LETTERS TO THE EDITOR •

British refuge saves lives of Algerians

Sir: Last week the reports that an asylum-seeker had died in custody on his enforced return to Algeria highlighted the civil war there. The deportation of the many Algerians currently detained in prisons and detention centres here was suspended. How tragic if the good news (report, 19 May), that that particular asylum seeker is alive and unharmed, should become bad news for those Algerians hoping for temporary admission, were it to be used as an excuse by the Home Office to speed up their

deportation. The risk to any young man sent back to Aigeria is enormous. Those avoiding military service because they don't want to kill their compatriots have "disappeared" in police custody. Those who have completed theirs suffer reprisals from Muslim terrorists. No one knows what has happened to many of those who have already been forcibly repatriated.

Algerians over the past two years through visiting them in detention. They have strong family ties and miss their culture and way of life. All they want is the chance to stay here until it is reasonably safe to return. They are willing to work at the most menial jobs in order to support themselves and their friends. They do not want to depend on state benefits. Detainees from Zaire have now

mostly been released from detention. No doubt many will soon choose to return to make a fresh start in their country. I hope the new Home Secretary will see his way to ending months of agonising uncertainty by giving the same rights to the Algerians. THERESA FRAYN Oxford

Sir: Robert Fisk ("Truth the victim in American crackdown, 16 May) writes of the questionable means used by the US authorities in their attempt to send Anwar Haddam back to Algeria. Truth is even more a victim in Algeria itself.

No information regarding "security" matters in Algeria may be reported that has not been issued by the security forces or the official press agency. The French newspaper Libération (23 April) reported that journalists trying to visit the village where 93 people were reportedly massacred on the night of 21/22 April were turned back, preventing any independent confirmation of the massacre. There are no foreign journalists in Algeria, and on the rare occasions that they obtain visas they must almost invariably be accompanied by a security forces escort. Thus no independent reports are reaching us from Algeria.

On 23 February Rachid Medjahed, arrested by the security forces, appeared on television and "confessed" to having planned and directed the killing of the prominent trade unionist Abdelhaq Benhamouda on 28 January 1997. Rachid Medjahed's father, who bad not known of his son's arrest until he saw him on television, was shown his son's body in a hospital on 3 April. He was not allowed to take the body but was given a death certificate signed 3 March.

On 8 April representatives of Human Rights Watch, who were visiting Algeria, were told by the Minister of Justice that Rachid Medjahed had been wounded but so far as the minister knew was well and receiving treatment.



Do the Algerian authorities know what is going on in their own country? Amnesty International is gravely concerned that Mr Medjahed was extrajudicially killed. The truth about the deaths of tens of thousands of other Algerians needs to be most urgently known. The dreadful atrocities carried out by armed groups cannot be an excuse for not permitting the truth of the situation in Algeria to reach the outside world

ROGER GOLDSMITH Country Coordinator Algeria. Amnesty International UK Colwyn Bay, Clwyd

Babies at risk from dioxins

Sir: It has been known for many years that PCBs and dioxins are widespread in our diet and are concentrated in human milk as well as in cows' milk (Briefing, 15 May) and that they take a long time to decay, probably over 10 years.
They are entirely man-made and

the biggest source in past years has been the incineration of municipal waste. In a report published last year the Inspectorate of Pollution (now part of the Environment (gency) stated that for breast-fed babies the estimated average imake of dioxins is approximately 9-28 picogrammes (pg) per kilogram body weight, per day, compared to the adult intake of 1-5pg. These estimates were based on

measurements by the Ministry of Agriculture and were used to demonstrate that the encouragement of incineration as a method of dealing with the UK's waste disposal problem would not

cause any health hazards from dioxin emissions from the incinerator, as modern equipment could trap the dioxins and guarantee that less than 1,000pg of dioxins per cubic metre of air were discharged to air: this would mean that those living near the memerator would only absorb a maximum of 0.1-0.5pg per Kgm body weight a day, a small amount compared with what they were

absorbing from their diet. The report however admits that even on their estimated figures hreast-fed babies would be receiving more than the recommended daily dose. Now we learn that actual

measurements are far greater and show that hreast-fed habies at two months old are absorbing as much as 110pg per Kgm in body weight plus another 60 pg of PCBs, of similar toxicity, which were not measured before. But, we are told, all will be well because once the baby goes on to mixed food and takes less milk the dioxins they have absorbed will gradually decay.

These compounds are accepted carcinogens; the Americans and many British scientists believe they are capable of affecting the bormones and the immune system. It is urgent that steps be taken to reduce the amounts in our diet as soon as possible, and the previous government's policy of encouraging incineration of municipal waste should be reversed. There are other ways of dealing with waste. DY PATRICIA ELLIOTT Saffron Walden, Essex

Devolution leaves England behind

Sir. The Government's devolution proposals will give more rights and control over their lives to citizens who happen to live in Scotland than those in Wales, and those in Wales will have more than those in England Citizens of Northern Ireland will be fourth-class citizen Proposals for London will give Londoners preferential treatment compared with residents of our other great cities. The two areas of the UK which receive a disproportionately large share of national resources, Scotland and London, will have governments

even greater advantage.
Tony Blair has reiterated New
Labour's intention to speak for and serve the whole nation". If he is serious in this claim, he must assure us that within the foreseeable future Wales and English regions will get the same powers as Sectiand, and, critically, ensure that legislation for an elected mayor and authority for London encompasses also Merseyside, Greater Manchester and DAVID SEE

which will assist them in gaining an

Sir: As a Scot who lives in England and who believes in the Union, I would like to ask Mr Blair: "Why are the English and Northern Irish not being consulted over

Manchester

devolution?" We live in the United Kingdom, on psychotherapy and

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e-mail: letters@independent.co.uk. E-mail correspondents are asked to give a postal address. Letters may be

edited for length and clarity. We regret we are unable to acknowledge unpublished letters.

created by the Act of Union 1707 and the English, Northern Irish, Scots and the Welsh must be consulted as equal partners.
The Rev PAUL WILLIAMSON, Hanworth, Middlesex

Victorian 'care in the community'

Sir: Andreas Whittam Smith"s article of 13 May, "The man who abolished madness", arouses the ire of the consultant psychiatrist Dr Peter White (letter, 14 May).

Those of us in the profession who appreciate Largaciil but would like to convince colleagues that the meaning of schizophrenic communication may be understood and used to help patients alongside drug treatment are not assisted in this aim by such hyperbole and wholesale attacks on psychiatrists for hospitalisation. Mr Whittam Smith should read the report of the mid-19th-century Royal Commission on the dreadful conditions endured by the insane in the community then - often cared for by lay people. Laingians are misinformed to suggest that all compassion and "attunement" resides with them. To quote another bterary reference, Charles Lamb, whose devotion to his sister Mary was exemplary, nevertheless from time to time found it necessary for her to have a spell in hospital for her madness.

There is to be an international conference in October in London

schizophrenia which will address some of the problems.
Dr ISOBEL HUNTER-BROWN Leicester

Designing the millennium

Sir: The report (16 May) about the Millennium Exhibition and the role of the design company Imagination contained a number of maccuracies. Imagination has worked as a consultant to the project on a series of rolling contracts. The last of these expired at the end of March, following which Imagination advised Millennium Central (the exhibition organisers) that it telt it was now appropriate for the design work to pause until Millennium Central is in position to issue

specific design briefs. It is quite wrong to suggest that there were cost overruns on any aspect of the content design. At all times Imagination has worked strictly to the project budgets set by the exhibition organisers in January of this year.

Imagination remains fully committed to the successful realisation of the Millennium Exhibition at Greenwich and has advised Millennium Central that it would be happy to respond to any future briefs. PAUL MACKAY Director, Imagination

That's enough

Sir. Eighteen days of Labour rule time for a change? GERALD LEFEBVE London, SW12

Unknown waste of water

Sir: As a former senior water engineer of the pre-privatisation era 1 am concerned to see how the leakage rates of the various water companies are being generally quoted as though they were gospel. Matthew Taylor in his article "Lessons in how to run water" (19 May) is the latest politician to quote a 30 per cent leakage figure as though it were a proven fact.

Until there is metering of all supplies no one can say how much water is lost in the distribution system. The present means of arriving at leakage is by estimating the daily unmercred consumption of each household and making other basic assumptions on legitimate uses: the estimated leakage is then the difference between those totals and the amounts supplied into the system. An Ofwat report of May last year made it clear that there are 'significant uncertainties in leak reporting".

By all means ensure that the water companies reduce their wastage of water in these times of drought, but let us have some caution in the figures quoted. JOHN FAIRBANK Hove, East Sussex

Bike cities of the future

Sir: The recent letters from those who perceive all cyclists to be lawbreakers couldn't be due 10 jealousy, could they? After years of woeful provision we are finally getting at least some of the cycle-friendly amenities common on the Continent. Last week in Sunderland, a dual-carriageway road was made into singlecarriageway after a cycle lane was installed. This, quite naturally, enrages some motorists.

However, provision for cyclists will encourage some motorists to cycle rather than drive. When 15 per cent of the traffic is made up of cyclists (York sometimes comes close), city centres are transformed for the better. Cars can no longer break the law by speeding - too many people in the way - and cyclists and pedestrians can travel in safety, persuading even more people to choose transport options other than the motor car. CARLTON REID Publisher, "On Yer Bike" Newcastle upon Tyne

Cut off on the motorway

Sir: The Independent (15 May) contains as usual an advertisement from a mobile phone operator - in this case Orange - claiming to cover somewhat over 90 per cent of the UK population. All four operators make similar claims.

As one who in recent weeks has made considerable use of in-car mobile phones from at least three of the systems currently operating including Orange - I wonder if one of them can explain how they have managed to corral the uncovered 8 per cent - or whatever - to inhabit 100-yard strips at two- or three-mile intervals along the sides of major roads and motorways. This has led to calls being regularly cut off and on reconnection punishing the poor consumer for a failure by the operator by charging them again the minimum connection charge. GLYN FORD MEP (Greater Manchester East, Lab)

Who's he We

The Indian conquest of English

The new novels of India are being read around the world, but they are being written in the language of the conqueror. Peter Popham explores an improbable success

> ifty vears after India's independence, we in Britain seem far more enthusiastic about marking the golden jubilee than India itself. It is not hard to see why. For India, the attainment of freedom was overshadowed by Partition, and the massacres and mass migrations that accompa-nied it; any celebration is bound to he tinged with bitter regret. For the British, on the other hand, it is as one cynic put it, "the anniversary of our munificence in giving away such a jewel". But if that is one rather creepy, nar-

cissistic reason for cheer, there is another which is perhaps better founded. Indian English goes from strength to strength. The conqueror's tongue, so useful in enabling educated Indians from every part of the country to talk to each other on linguistically neutral ground has not merely survived. neutral ground, has not merely survived Britain's departure: it has gone on to achieve an extraordinary identity of its own. Thanks to Salman Rushdic more than any other single individual, it has risen to the challenge of evoking the phantasmagoria of India. In becoming emancipated from British English, it has not become quaint or folkloric in any normal meaning of the term. It requires no indulgences. Yet all this is from a country that is about as culturally remote from Britain as it is possihle to be, in which English remains the medium of a tiny minority. Its richness and vitality are mysterious.

The best Indians write so well that their work betrays no effort. But there is no doubt that the effort required to master such an alien tongue is immense. In a contribution to the recent issue of Granta devoted to India, Nirad Chaudhuri, the Indian author.



who was 100 last year, described his own method, "I did not learn English from Englishmen." he wrote, "nor hear it spoken by native speakers till late in life." He learned enough from his Bengali teachers "so that when I entered university life in 1914 I didn't have to consult dictionaries. consult dictionaries ... Nonetheless an acute anxiety troubled me when I was writing my first hook, The Autobiography of an Unknown Indian, in 1947 and 1948. I asked myself whether what I was writing would sound like English to those born to the language. I knew, unless it did, no English publisher would accept my book.

"I adopted a special method to rid myself of the worry. I read what I had written aloud and then also read a passage from some great book of English prose in the same way. If the two sound effects agreed I passed my writing ...



on 8 September 1952, the BBC read out certain passages from it; I said to myself: That was the sound I had in my mind's ear."

Since Chaudhuri's denut in the year of independence, recognition in the West of Indian literary achievement has been slow to build. But after the success of Rushdie. Vikram Seth, Anita Desai, Robinton Mistry and a handful of others, the door has been battered down; hopeful young Indians carting their manuscripts to publishers in London or New York today find they have arrived in the middle of a modest hut palpahle Indian

The most celebrated beneficiary of the hoom so far is Arundhati Roy, a woman from Kerala in the extreme south, whose first novel. The God of Small Things, is published by Flamingo in three weeks. Roy, who trained as an architect in Delhi and has had two of her scripts filmed to critical acclaim, gained instant fame when the London agent David Godwin, stunned by her manuscript, took the first plane to Delhi and signed her up. That judge-ment was confirmed when world rights were bought for half a million pounds.

Roy is the rarest sort of commodity in publishing, being possessed of an amazing elfin beauty as well as great tal-ent. But there is nothing commodity-like about the book itself: the result of five years' work, it is deeply personal. and so vivid that its evocations of the Kerala landscape colonize the reader's

Indian relationship with English: pos-sessing the extreme intimacy that is the fruit of the sort of effort Chaudhuri writes of yet simultaneously able to play with the language in a way that only those raised some distance from the hirthplace of English - whether Irish,

African or Indian - seem capable. But Roy is also painfully aware of the problematic cultural implications of the intimacy which she enjoys. Ammu said that Pappachi was an incurable British CCP," she writes in The God of Small Things, which was short for chhì-chhi-poach and in Hindi meant shit-wiper. Chacko said than the correct word for people like Pappachi was Anglophile ... Chacko told the twins that though he hated to admit it, they were all Anglophiles. They were a family of Anglophiles. Pointed in the wrong direction, trapped outside their own history, and unable to retrace their steps hecause their footprints

had been swept away Roy is one of the newer Indian writers introduced this week on Radio 3 hy Noah Richler in a series of five programmes. Taken together they give a good indication of the variety and mul-tifarious richness of Indian writing today. Sbashi Tharoor is there, satirical author of Show Business, a farce about Bollywood, and The Great Indian Novel, whose previous day job was bead of peacekeeping for the UN in Bosnia, and who is now secretary to Kofi Annan, the UN secretary-general.

Upamanyu Chatteriee's first novel. entitled English, August, describes the

coming of age of a young civil servant dispatched to the formidable trouble zone of the state of Bihar. Chatterjee now works as he chief of Bombay's slum redevelopment office. He describes himself as writing "as a gentleman plays cricket" and aims to write one novel every Olympics. Mukul Kesava is the only one of the

five who is overtly indebted to the Salman Rushdie school of magic realism: his novel Looking Through the Backwards-Forwards View Glass is a fall through history to the time of Partition, the horror of prescience relieved by fair tastic humour. Finally there is Vikram Chandra, who has followed his doorstopping début novel, Red Earth and Pouring Rain, with a collection of sto-ries entitled Love and Longing in Bombay. With his light American accent and openness to American influences such as Raymond Chandler, Chandra represents a growing trend among the younger generation of studying in the United States and then staying where they are. Many of India's hetter-known writers have settled abroad.

Tet the example of Arundhati Roy and the others demonstrate that the wellsprings of English within India still flow abundantly. But what exactly is their writing for? Are they writing purely for themselves? For their peers within Indian cities? Or for the benefit of the whole world?

Arundhati Roy, according to Noel Richler, is "writing out of her own need and urgency"; certainly ber book has an intensity and hrilliance that renders such questions largely redundant. Rich-

ler points out, however, that both Shashi Tharoor and Roy herself are Bengali (Roy part-Bengali), and there-fore part of the rich Bengali literary tradition. Throughout India's hig cities, there are closely printed, densely written hroadsheet newspapers and weekly and monthly magazines; and the highly articulate reception given to India-related projects like the new Granta, testifies to the liveliness of the literary

world within India. And then there is the world heyond, the huge importance of getting a British or American duniisher, the lure of Arundhati-sized advances. "Part of you," Richler suggests, "is inevitably writing with the world in mind."

Yet the contradictions and the difficulties remain: of writing for the world about your own country, when the vast majority of your compatriots will not understand what you are saying.

"People ask me sometimes, who are you writing for?" Vikram Chandra tells Noah Richler in the course of one of the Radio 3 programmes. "Are you writing for a western audience or an Indian audience? But that distinction falls apart when you look at it a little more closely. What is meant by an Indian audience? Are we talking about the intellectuals in Bombay or the tea-planters in Darjeeling? ... What you can finally tell stories for are the people who are sitting right in front of you. Once it goes over the loudspeakers ont into the world outside, you have no control over it."

The writer has been appointed India correspondent for The Independent

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First, smoke your rhododendron very year about 5,000 new cookery books come out. Next year a whole book devoted to the cooking of flowers is ambitious indeed. Of the recipes we tried, rosemary they will all be remaindered flower bread was good, apple because nobody can make up hlossom pudding was delicious and daffodil pie their mind which one to buy. To avoid that terrible waste, we are introducing a new unspeakable. Smoked rhodoservice that sifts through all dendron blooms are not as bad as they sound, but nearly. 'Icelandic Cooking - the the new cookery books and recommends the best to you. Here to kick off is the pick of Cuisine Nobody Knows' by all the cookery books Per Ulfsson (Deep Freeze published over the weekend. Press, £19.99) Although publishers are always on the look-out for The Raver Café Cookbook' by Emmu Thripp (Garlic Press. £10.99) countries whose cooking has The Raver Café is a small yet to become popular, they eating place in the North of should be warned that England which is cashing in Scandinavian cooking is very on its similarity in name to the River Café in the hupe bard to sell to the British public. (A book called Finnish Eating is said to have that tats of people will buy this cookbook by mistake. It sold not a single copy.) This contains over 100 recipes book, with its bearty horse involving hlack pudding. Cooking With Flowers by steaks and endless ice creams, may do well, but we Percival Forster (Wineskin Press, £19.99) have our dnubts. There is much emphasis on cooking Every cookery book imagines over peat, perhaps in an it is making a breakthrough. attempt to nutdo the River Café's recent conversion to but this one genuinely does woud cooking. Post-River Cafe Cooking seem to he treading fresb territory. We may have

nccasionally come across

and rose petals are not

deep fried courgette htooms.

unknown in the kitchen, but

it – this does provide a useful gloss on the way we cook now. Stigwood points nut that the River Cafe has become famous despite most people nul knowing where it is nr having eaten there. She points out that people talk ahout River Café style as being more important than the place itself and argues, startlingly, that the River Cafe does not even need to Theory' by Deirdre Stigwood (Lychec Press, £19.99) exist - that one could have a new styte based un a purely Not strictly a cookbook putative restaurant. There

have been cookbooks based

Miles Kington

what she is nn about, but the pictures are nice. Choosing Your Name' by Patty Boulez (Grissini Books, Miss Boulez's thesis is that many cooks owe their success to their name, and that you should invent one carefully if you are after fame. Floyd was a good name, because it lent itself to alliteration - Floyd on Fish, Floyd on Fire, etc. Marco-Pietre White was a silly name but it did combine three nationalities – Italian, French, English - in a way that suggested the eclecticism of the man's cooking. Ken Hom she approves of, because, as she says, "the British can take a Chinaman unly when one of his names is Chinese and the other English". She is at a loss to explain how a man called Rick Stein became a popular cook, hut otherwise is very good.

on fictional characters (a Maigret cookery hook, for

instance) so why not on

fictional restaurants? She

concludes: "If Delia Smith

have not the faintest idea

did not exist, it would not he

necessary to invent her." We

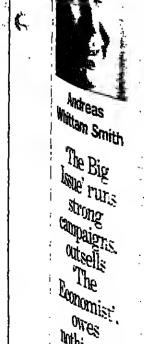
The Rover Café Cookbook by Eddie Shawarma (Placebo Press, £19.99) An attempt to cash in on the success of the Raver Cafe Cookbook. To be avoided, on the whole. The Eric Cantona Cookery Book' by Eric Cantona wil others (Bulimia Books, £19.99) This is, apparently, Eric Cantona's first cookbook though it is difficult to tell whether the pieces it contains are recipes or poems. Take this, for instance: "If there were no dogs in the world, would the sardine be man's best friend? Only the seagull can tell. Grill and serve. The Prison Cook Book' by Mrs Michael Howard (Wormwood Press, £19.99) The wife of the former Home Secretary achieved passing notoriety for suggesting that prison food was too good for them. Now she puts action into words by producing a model prison cookbook, and most of the dishes described would, indeed, be more of a deterrent than her busband's policies. We especially liked the title of ber chapter on Breton onions: "String 'Em Up, I Sayl"

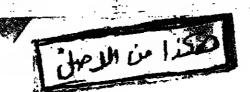






Jewels in the literary crown: (clockwise from top right) Salman Rushdie, Vikram Seth, Arundhati Roy, and Nirad Chaudhuri





there are no actual recipes in

Who's afraid of the West Lothian question?

famous question. It was possible, listening to Tam Dalyell talking about the problems thrown up by the powers devolved to a Scottish parliament, to imagine yourself transported back to 1978. It sounded so familiar, hearing Dalyell warning like Cassandra that one day there would be a government that wouldn't tolerate him and that wouldn't tolerate him and his parliamentary neighbour Robin Cook being "able to vote on housing, education and health in West Bromwich, but not in West I othigm? West Lothian".

This time there is a difference: unlike the tottering minority government of 19 years ago, this one can ignore Dalyell. With a huge majority, a Scottish MP-free Tory party, and home rule referendums planned for what will still be its home more than the property of the p what will still be its honeymoon period, why should it worry about the wrinkle of Scottish

about the wrinkle of Scotlish MPs at Westminster being able to vote on policies which only apply in England and Wales?

It is easy to understand why so many Scotlish politicians are dismissive when their English counterparts bleat about the West Lothian question. English Tory politicians throw up their hands in horror at the idea of Scottish MPs voting on matters which only concern England without showing any signs of having recognised how long the reverse has been true. For 18 years an English Tory majority imposed its will, poll tax included, on a Labour-voting Scottish people without turning a hair. It was, after all, partly to remedy that injustice that the momentum for home rule

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March 1886

developed. But building into a system the possibility that somewhere, far over the horizon. English and Welsh voters might have policies imposed on them by a majority of Scottish MPs is only desirable if you believe revenge is a suitable hasis for constitutional reform - and don't mind the English nationalist tensions that such an outcome would generate.

· There have been at least two answers to the Lothian question, both of them canvassed by the Lib Dems. The Government's line, so far, is that all the question exposes is a potential anomaly in the British constitution, that the constitution is full of anomalies, and anyway no one objected to Northern Ireland MPs voting on mainland issues. And that's, er, it.

The Lib Dems, by contrast, have proposed that the anomaly would be eased by reducing the present 72 Scottish MPs - who currently represent 55,000 voters on average - to a number proportionately closer to the English, who it 68,000 on average. In the short term this has disadvantages for both Lib Dems - currently sitting for territorially huge, sparsely pop-ulated seats - and for Labour, with the risk of

"warfare" in the remaining constituencies. That fear may be exaggerated; won't the Scottish parliament itself open up just the kind of alternative career path for Labour politicians that would prevent that happening?

Less formally, the Lib Dems have floated the idea that Scottish MPs should exclude themselves from voting on issues which in Scotland are the province of the Scottish parliament. This, the so-called "In and Out" solution, is hardly a new idea, though it is a real answer. The Scotsman advocated it before the election - just a few days after it had been pointed out



Donald Macintyre

The Government line is that the question only

there should be a 14-day cooling-off period and a second vote, to allow reconsideration.

Taking a distinctly sniffy attitude to the idea of "In and Out", the Constitution Unit, in its report on devolution last year, exposes an approvingly quoted Enoch Pow-ell's somewhat mystical remark, made in the 1978 dehates on anomaly. Scottish home rule, that "the nature of this Hnuse is that it is a body corporate. What con-cerns any part of us concerns us but the constitution is full of all. We are, in the best sense of the word, peers in every respect and sit on a basis of equality of anomalies responsibility and rights." You don't hear constitutional anyway.

And that's,

er, it

reformers quoting Powell quite so readily on the threat a reformed and therefore legitimised Lords would pose to the ancient sovereignty of the Commons. The important point is that Powell, as he made perfectly

in The Independent that Blair's

freedom to put it into practice,

if he chose, would be much

greater if he won a landslide victory. (Because with a hig major-

ity in England, he would not

need the Scots to win votes.)

But its antecedents go much further back than that. Gladstone's 1893 Government of Ire-

land Bill originally proposed that Irish MPs should be

excluded from matters "confined to Great Britain or some

part thereof". And Section 66 of the 1978 Scotland Act, as a

result of a Tory Lords' amend-ment carried against the

Callaghan government's fierce opposition by just one vote, provided that if Scottish MPs had

been decisive in a vote on issues which didn't concern Scotland,

clear at the time, was arguing that there were no solutions to the problems he saw in home rule. If his remark meant anything, it was that

we shouldn't have a Scottish parliament.

As the Scottish academic Bill Miller has frequently pointed out, governments with convincing UK majorities have also had majorities in England. Indeed, only the 1964 government and the first one in 1974 haven't. That is sometimes used as an argument for saying the West Lothian question doesn't matter because it would so infrequently make a difference in practice. But if the principle is wrong, it is wrong whatever the parliamentary arithmetic. In fact the Miller figures simply show that in practice a Labour government has little to fear from excluding Scottish MPs from solely English and Welsh matters.

It is worth remembering that the Scottish referendum, good as the auspices are, isn't yet won. A powerful argument for the parliament, that a Labour Scotland doesn't want to be controlled by a politically alien administration, is inevitably reduced when the UK majority is the same as Scotland's. At least one Scottish Labour backbencher (without anti-devolutionist form) was struck, during the election campaign, by how divided his constituents seemed to be on the issue.

At the moment the Scottish Tonies couldn't

fight their way out of a wet paper bag; hut the threat that some future Tory government might arbitrarily and brutally reduce Scottish representation could yet he used to deter some sup-port in the referendum. It would be well for the Government, as the Lib Dems have done, to think creatively about the answers to Dalyell's tiresome, repetitive but inescapable question.

Giants who outgrow the back pages

by Rupert Cornwell

he retirement of Eric Cantona is not only a grievous blow to everyone professing faith in Manchester United Football Club. A hole has been torn in the heart of the country's life - or, more exactly, in the heart of the

A new candidate (or candidates) is required to fill the unofficial post of national sporting celebrity. Preferably he or she should be British. But Europeans, even Lann Americans, will be given equal con-sideration. Exceptional ability in the chosen sport is essential, as is charisma. Most vices and eccentricities will be welcome to the selection board. Applicants need not put their names forward in writing. They will be informally notified of their appointment when their name(s) appear in headlines on the front page of every national newspaper. Clearly, the selection process is highly unpredictahle. But here are a few guide-

lines to go by.
Rule number onc, of course: you must be good. Intelligence and unusual behaviour help; but the most glivering mind, the most brazen gifts of self-promotion, the most titillating excesses with drugs, drink or the ladies will avail nothing, without outstanding skills to attract attention in the first place.

In some cases, huge talent on its own can he enough. Tiger Woods is the obvious example. mesmerising golf spectators and newspaper editors alike not so much because he is black, but because he is so phenomenally good. Or take Tim Henman at tennis, whose talent has yet to be fully measured. He does not swear at umpires, as does John McEnroe. To indge by what you read (or rather, don't), his off-court life is unblemished, unassuming and unremarkable. Were he to win at Wimhledon, though, he would generate more headlines than Tony Blair. For those of only fractionally lesses talent hosteres what

lesser talent, however, what cliché holds less media promise than a manager's hackneyed description of his charge as a "great ambassador for the game"? Notoriety is the lifeblood of celebrity. The front pages demand not perfect diplomats, but lousy, indiscreet and failed ones. They range from "Bad Boy" Denis Rodman promotion, to the sadder stories of George Best and, more recently, Paul Gascoigne. Gazza's greatest, and thus newsiest, days are probably behind him. But his constant flirting with self-destruction

rules nothing out.
Third, it helps if you embody
a nation's image of itself. That was the gift to the front pages of Ian Botham, the Boy's Own yeoman hero whose ability to





Newspaper front pages demand not perfect diplomats, but lousy, indiscreet and failed ones

destroy the foe from Down Under had you forgiving his cavortings and hraggadocio.

Eric Cantona, however, does not quite fit any of these cate-

gories. Clearly there is more to him than wonderful skills on the football field. Yet over the past five years he has engaged not in self-destruction but in resurrection, both of himself and of Manehester United. Equally clearly, as a citizen of the aneestral enemy from across the Channel, he hardly qualifies as an all-English role of the Chicago Bulls and his vul- model. Yet, unless you hail gar, utterly calculating self- from Leeds, the odds are that you love him. Why? Because of his mystique and aloofness, the dash of Gallie arrogance mitigated by his evident enjoyment at being here. But, no less, simply because he is different. If Alan Shearer likened a run

hy Juninho to a sonnet by Keats, he would be laughed out of court. "Pure magic, Gary" is as close as is permitted to cerebral outpouring by our native footballing sons. But Eric le

penseur can muse about becom- In Ali, self-promotion fused ing a film director (nouvelle vague Mancantenne?) and claim to find as much beauty in a pass by Pele as in a stanza by Rimbaud, and get away with it. Cross the Chanoel, and pseudo-intellectuals hecome the real thing. That is the other comfort provided by Cantona.

We have taken a Frenchman. no less, to our bearts. Who can call us blinkered Europhobes? The gap he leaves is theree. But alongside that of one sporting immortal, it pales. The haleyon years of Muhammad Ali were before today's supercharged cocktail of sport. money and media. Ali, of course, did not need it. He pos-

sessed everything required for sporting celebrity, and more. His professional skills were luminous, but his mind outside the ring was as fast as his feet and hands in it. By choice, and by skin colour, he was pushed to the centre of the controversies of his age: "I ain't got no quarrel with them Vietcongs."

with promotion of the cause. Yet he loved his sport to an

plex, Ali's remains more complicated and even greater. He was a black radical who challenged a white government -but came to be loved by that very same establishment, anxious to atone for its sense of racial guilt. Today the tragic ravages of Parkinson's disease ling. The sports celebrity has transcended not just his sport, but all sport. One can only guess at the role a healthy and articulate Muhammad Ali not the pathetic figure we prayed would not fall as he climbed to light the Olympic

excess that was to destroy him.

If Cantona's appeal is com-

flame in Atlanta - might have played in the quest for racial healing in America and beyond. Today, though, he is a spent

force, and now that Cantona has departed, the celebrity stage is oddly vacant. On this side of the Atlantic at least, Michael Jordan doesn't resonate, while the Gascoigne star is fading. With his recent pointed criticism of President Clinton for racial pandering, young Tiger is showing scrious promise of celebrity beyond the sports pages – but not quite yet. The shift to the "New News" of celebrity and scandal from the "Old News" of Cold War, ideology and the rest, means the bar to be cleared in the leap from the back pages to the front has been lowered. Football, central as oever before to national life, is the natural source of new material, but somehow Zola, Juninho and the rest of the foreign legion don't fill Cantona's boots, and the vacancy exists. Probably, however, not for long. Like nature, celebrity abhnrs a vacuum. Just watch the front pages.

The voice of the streets is worth hearing FRENCE



Andreas Whittam Smith

The Big Issue' runs strong campaigns, outsells Economist', owes nothing to market research and, best of all, it's a good read

excellent magazine which I would rather read than The Economist, The Spectator, The New Statesman or Time Out. It describes itself as "Coming up from the streets" and its reporting lives up to the claim. The Big Issue interviews people who, whether in or out of work, whether living in their own homes or homeless, are struggling to lead decent lives and it illustrates their hopes, their fears and their predicaments. We hear voices rarely recorded by conventional publications.

If I say that the magazine mounts strong campaigns, as it has in recent issues against the careless use of electric shock treatment on mentally ill patients in hospitals, then I am in danger of implying that the magazine is wor-thy but dull. Not at all. In a recent issue its opening pages ran straight from an A to Z on homelessness to a fashion piece on sunglasses to a feature on the underground author, Q, whose first novel, *Deadment*, was originally sold in serial form around London's clubs.

The Big Issue previews the coming week in music, clubs, film, books, performance, TV and art. It often publishes a half-page of "street poetry". And a nan-page of street poetry. And invariably, on its last editorial page, under the heading "initiative", the magazine gives details of four missing persons, with pictures and mini profiles, and asks readers to support the National Missing Persons' Helpline. I also like The Big Issue for what it isn't. It is nei-

ther smart-alec nor sneering. I am not alone. The magazine's weekly sales have reached 280,000; it thus easily outsells The Economist in the UK (108,000), The Speciator (56,000), The New Statesman (20,000) and Time Out

Just recently I came to the conclusion that The Big Issue, which I regularly huy on the street, is an Issue is profitable. The worldly-wise will say that this is not a normal magazine sold in a conventional way, Indeed not. It is wonderfully peculiar.

It was founded in 1991 to give home-

less people the chance to make an income by selling the magazine; it would be for them an alternative to begging. Actually there hasn't been a stranger reason for starting publication since The Daily Telegraph was founded in 1855 in pursuit of a vendetta by a Colonel Sleigh against the Duke of Cambridge. commander-in-chief of the Army and Queen Victoria's cousin. In this case, Gordon Roddick of the Body Shop had seen Street News, a newspaper sold by homeless people in New York, and hrought the idea back to London where John Bird turned it into reality.

The nature of the encounter between The Big Issue vendors and their cus-tomers is different from, say, buying an evening paper outside a railway station. In the first transaction, emotion is present. As an alternative to begging it works both ways. Undouhtedly, for some purchasers who are not yet used to the magazine and have not yet grown to like it, buying it is a charitable donation. A part of each week's sale must be

accounted for in this way.

In my experience, on the other hand,
the vendors are unfailingly polite and pleasant. A virtuous circle develops. You like the magazine; you buy it from the same person in the street; some words about the publication may be exchanged; the transaction is a good one. Without this benign process the magazine could

never have succeeded. The vendors have driven the sale of The Big Issue. Before selling the magazine on the street, many were labourers, ing, especially from the music industry, from carpentry to catering, about 13 per sale from its appearance.



Vendors can gauge likely sales from the appearance of the cover

cent once held professional appointments such as psychologist, engineer. teacher or nurse, before losing their jobs and falling into homelessness. Not many sleep rough nowadays; most have temporary accommodation in hostels, squats or friends' places.

The vendors did not like the monthly publishing interval with which The Big Issue began. They found that sales petered out after about two weeks and likewise their income - they keep just over half the cover price. They expressed their views. Within a year the magazine began to publish formightly and then a few months later, in June 1993, it became a weekly. The vendors continue to make their opinion of the magazine's (106,000). It carries consumer advertist but half have qualifications in trades covers known. They can estimate their

Nothing would have been possible, however, without John Bird. He founded the magazine and edited it for a lengthy period. Now he is editor-in-chief and chairman of the trustees of the Big Issue Foundation. The foundation helps ven-dors to find accommodation, it locates and funds places for them on training and education courses, and it runs workshops designed to rebuild their self-confidence. John Bird is an idealist who focuses on a single question; is what we are doing going to help homeless people? The Big Issue's new editor, Becky Gar-

diner, formerly of The Independent on Sunday, has a parallel obsession – how to get ordinary people's voices heard.

To borrow a phrase from the Sixties. The Big Issue is a successful example of the counter-culture. For instance, it owes nothing to market research. It has not been carefully targeted at a nice market where, after much analysis, it is believed readers with spending power can he reached. The comments which the vendors make about each issue are of a different order to those derived from the carefully-balanced focus groups employed by conventional publishers. The magazine likewise owes nothing to its advertisers. It welcomes them and sells to them in a conventional manner, but it does not put them at the centre

of its universe as do, say, women's and men's magazines. But The Big Issue illustrates the most important rule of all: the success of a publication is ultimately determined by the character of its editor. What is sought is lucky coincidence between the beliefs, prejudices, ambitions, preoccupations and quirks of the editor and a sufficient number of readers. Editors have to be resolutely themselves. They must resist being programmed by busi-ness managers. Striking attitudes does not work. The Big Issue is authentic, it is true to itself - that is why I like it.

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business & city

BUSINESS & CITY EDITOR: JEREMY WARNER

Tax revenue surge cheers Chancellor

There was welcome news for the Government yesterday from tigures showing that the public finances were in surplus in the last month hefore the election. Buoyant tax revenues mean the Treasury will be able to reduce its larget for this year's public sector borrowing requirement (PSBR) in the Budget next month.

In a speech to the Confederation of British Industry tonight. Gordon Brown will promise to be tough on public spending and borrowing. He will say: "In my first Budget I will be looking to the long-term needs of the British economy. I will set tough rules for government borrowing and spending. I will publish a plan for deficit reduction over the medium term."

Yesterday also brought a survey showing consumer confi-dence has surged to its highest

post-election euphoria. By far the ggest improvements occurred in Scotland and Wales, the two regions which voted all their Conservative MPs out of office.

The monthly survey of consumer confidence carried out by GfK for the European Commission shows a big jump in op-timism about the economy and household finances in the fortnight immediately after the general election. The balance of optimists over pessimists was, at 6 per cent, the highest since August 1988.

Commenting on the results, Ben Sanderson of Nottingham Trent University said: "The latest survey suggests that New Labour means new confidence."

He said the figures indicated that consumers would probably spend rather than save the free share handouts from building societies this summer. Nearly a fifth said they planned big purchases during the next 12 months.

Nikko warns on Social Chapter

After the backlash over the planned windfall tax last week comes the first sign of disenchantment with the Government's picage to sign up to the EU's Social Chapter.

The deputy chairman of the investment hank Nikko Europe warned yesterday that this could threaten future inward investment in the UK.

Haruko Fukuda said, in a speech to the Eurosceptic Bruges Group, that Lahour's move would create uncertainty about the future business environment in Britain in the minds of Japanese investors.

Japanese husinessmen will therefore he watching very closely over the next few months to see whether the new rity, or in the employment or in make it less uttractive for Japan-Britain rather than elsewhere."

Echoing the caution of the last government, she said: "The philosophy of social Europe appears to be one which finds its ideal where all European industry is equally uncompetitive.

I find it difficult to believe

that such a social Europe would he attractive to foreign in-The worry was that the Social

Chapter was an unknown quantity, with very little legislation actually passed under its aus-pices so far. Miss Fukuda said. It was a "bulging pipeline of unspecified employment legis-

In addition, the Labour Party remained an unknown quantity to Japanese investors.

Miss Fukuda said: "Signing Labour government takes mea- up to the Social Chapter is a rechange in the husiness culture in the UK of the past 18 years which has been so clearly recognised and admired by the international husiness com-

On top of this return of the feelgood factor, the run of favourable economic news inherited from former Chancelfor Kenneth Clarke continued

yesterday. New figures showed that gov-ernment revenues exceeded expenditure by £36m in April. City experts had expected a shortfall

Although caution is needed in drawing conclusions from the first month of the financial year, the trends suggest that the PSBR for 1997/98 could be much lower than the £19bn forecast in last

November's Budget.

The Treasury said special factors helped explain April's surplus. The sale of Ministry of Defence married quarters and the Housing Corporation loan book brought one-off reductions of £700m each. The switch to quarterly VAT payments on account accounted for up to £1bn of the £1.4bn in total VAT receipts compared with last April.

A spokesman said the Chancellor was determined to see significant further progress before he could be confident that the public finances were on a sound long term footing.

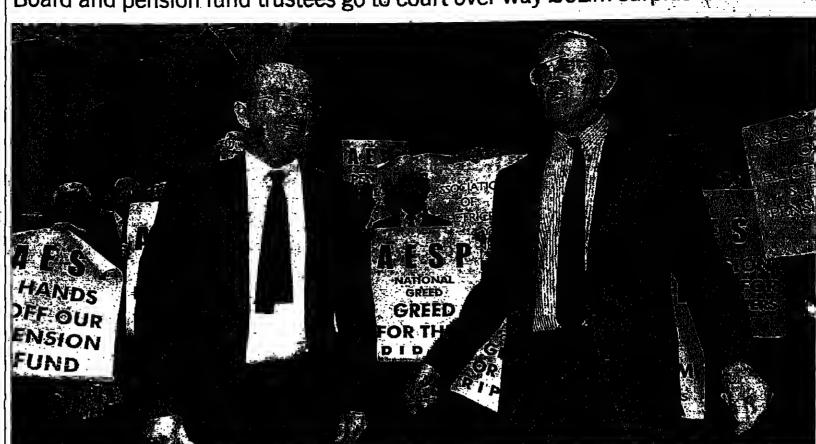
Even so, yesterday's figures diminished expectations that Gordon Brown will opt to raise extra taxes in his first Budget, due next month. "A significant downward re-

vision to the Treasury's PSBR forecast in the forthcoming Budget seems certain," said John O'Sullivan, an economist at NatWest Markets.

Excluding the one-off asset sales, central government spending was about 1 per cent higher than a year earlier, well on target to meet the tough publie spending plans set out in the last Budget and adopted by the new Government.

Tax revenues were 12.5 per cent up on the year, well ahead of the Treasury forecast. Apart from VAT, income tax and nalional insurance contributions are growing strongly, reflecting rising in employment.

There is clear evidence that the from the strength of the economy," said Jonathan Loynes at HSBC Markets. But he said borrowing remained too high for this stage of the economic cycle. Board and pension fund trustees go to court over way £62m surplus was divided



Gathering support: Pensioners Reg Mayes (left) and David Laws, who brought the case against the National Grid

Chris Godsmark Business Correspondent

A landmark ruling by the pensions omhudsman tequiring National Grid to repay £46m to its pension fund included an "astonishing proposition" which would prevent the company from ever reducing its contributions, the High Court was told vesterday as the company began its appeal against the judgment.

Peter Crampin QC for the Grid said if the ruling were enforced it would mean the company would carry on accumulating huge surpluses in its fund without heing able to adjust company contributions.

He said the Grid had previously raised its contributions to cover a deficit in the scheme and was entitled to set aside part of

National Grid fights ombudsman's ruling

company liabilities.

The court heard details of discussions between the Grid's board and its pension fund trustees after the £62.3m surplus was identified following a val-uation by the actuary Bacon and Woodrow in 1992. In April 1993 the trustees had called for the cash to be divided equally between the company and the pensioners, but were overruled by the board. The Grid's chosen option was to give 30 per

the surplus to cover future cent of the surplus to pension- Power, the generator, which ers in enhanced benefits and allocated the rest to the company, partly to help fund early retirement costs from its redundancy programme.

If the pensioners and the ombudsman defeat the appeal it could leave the privatised electricity companies with a bill of up to £1bn. A further valuation of the pension schemes was carried out in 1995 which identified another large surplus. Worst hit would be National could be asked to pay back as much as £200m, while Eastern Electricity has confirmed its liability would be £75m. National Power is due to bring its own pre-emptive court case later this year.

The court was packed with Grid pensioners for the hearing including David Laws and Reg-Mayes who brought the case. At one stage the ombudsman, Dr Julian Farrand, appeared in the courtroom but was unable

Photograph: Photonews to find a seat. Dr Farrand has

declined to be represented.
Flanked by supportive pensioners carrying banners with
the words "National Greed" Mr Laws claimed the case would clarify the rights of pensioners

over fund surpluses. The ombudsman had said the rules of the Electricity Supply Pension Scheme, the umbrella fund, prohibited payments to the employer. However, Mr Crampin said in

certain circumstances they could be allowed including cases where the surplus was used pay for future benefits. "Where a surplus has been identified that surplus is available

to pre-fund employer contributions." he said. The case continues today, and is expected to last a week.

BT and Sky broaden digital alliance

Cathy Newman

Rupert Murdoch's BSkyB is bolstering its bid for digital terrestrial television by bringing in British Interactive Broadcasting to provide interactive services. The move has raised potential to dominate Britain's digital television future.

British Digital Broadcasting the consortium of BSkyB, Carlton and Granada which is -BT and BSkyB-is causing con-Comment, page 21 bidding for the digital licence, cern among industry regulators.

announced yesterday that it was in "formal talks" with British Interactive Broadcasting, increase pressure on British in which both BT and BSkyB Digital Broadcasting's only have a stake, about offering rival, Digital Television Netinteractive services.

If British Digital Broadcasting succeeds in its digital terrestrinew fears about Sky's growing al licence bid, the new link interactive offering would give BT a back-door into terrestrial television via a powerful alliance with BSkvB. The business union of the two giants

While analysts were not surprised by yesterday's news, it did work, which has based much of its bid for a digital terrestrial licence around the quality of its

British Digital Broadcasting is battling hard to persuade the Independent Television Commission, the industry regulator, that its services have as much potential for interactivity as those proposed by Digital Tele- News & Media would take a 30 vision Network.

Both Digital Television Network, which is owned by Cable Tel, and British Digital Broadcasting have been quietly attempting to address any weak-Independent Television Com-

licences in the next few weeks. Earlier this month. Digital Television Network strengthened its programming proposi-

per cent stake in it if it won a digital terrestrial television licence. United controls the Anglia and Meridian ITV franchises.

While British Digital Broadcasting has claimed United's role nesses in their bids before the in the Digital Television Network offering constitutes a "materi mission makes a decision on the al change" to the bid. BDB's talks with BIB are unlikely to fall foul of the ITC as the group's initial licence application mentioned that interactivity may in tion by announcing that United due course be provided.

Byatt questions regulation plans Glaxo profits hit New Interflora

Chris Godsmark

Ian Byatt, the water industry regulator, set himself on a collision course with the Government yesterday over Lahour's long-term plans to shake up utility regulation. He also said his next price review could not be conducted independently of the windfall (ax on the privatised utilities, to be in-

roduced in the next Budget. Speaking after the Water Summit in London, which hrought together water company chiefs and environmenialists to hear a 10-point plan on leakage and resource management. Mr Byatt questioned whether Labour's plans to cream off any excess profits from privatised utilities each year could be made to work.

The final proposals for utility price regulation outlined before the election envisaged re-taining the so-called RPIN formula based on inflation, hur sharing excess profits hetween customers and sbareholders. *My approach has been a flex-

ible response within certain principles. I'm quite doubtful

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made to work. The present sys-tem works quite well," he said. Questioning how quickly what be described as "formulaic

rules" could he implemented retrospectively each year, Mr Byatt said he preferred his own voluntary system for companies which failed to meet investment targets implied in their price Several water companies

were this year asked by Ofwat.

Change (%) 1986/97 High 1996/97 Lew Yield(%)

4056.60 3.51

5032.94 1 71

4729.40 4469.40 3.60 2272.10 2017.90 3.53

20489.75 17303.85 0.81† 14153.58 12055.17 3.06† 3604.55 2848.77 1.51†

Source: FT Information



At the summit: The regulator, len Byatt (left), and Michael Meacher, Environment Minister Photograph: Nicola Kurtz

6,22_

Price (s) Change (s) Change's Falls

0.72

0.43

about whether a rule could be the water watchdog, not to raise attacked for failing to spend prices by as much as allowed in their price regimes from last

financed.

Mr Byatt also said his next month. Most, including Severn price review, brought forward Trent, North West Water and from 2000 to 1999, could not be Yorkshire Water, agreed to comcarried out in isolation from the ply although Thames Water windfall tax, which he said was refused to accept the voluntary one of several issues which needed consideration. "They've Since privatisation the 10 said they want to consider profit water and sewerage groups have been allowed to raise bills to covsharing. In the meantime Gordon Brown wants to have a er the massive investment backwindfall tax. There are a lot of big issues to talk through," he explained, emphasising his statutory duty to ensure water companies were properly

> Mr Brown, Chancellor of the Exchequer, has pledged to consult industry regulators before levying the tax. However Mr Byatt said be had received no request from the Treasury, despite the possibility of a June Budget.

Mr Byatt is not the first reg-ulator to question Labour's utility proposals. Clare Spottiswoode, the gas regulator, has criticised the principle of the windfall tax, arguing her latest price proposals for British Gas were designed to wipe out any excess profits from the past.

7,15

by strong pound

Sameena Ahmad

Glaxo Wellcome said yesterday the strength of the pound could cut as much as 5 per cent off the pharmaceutical giant's profits this year. Although Glaxo's sales rose 10 per cent in the first 10 months of the year at constant exchange rates, they were unchanged when converted to

sterling.
In his final address as chairman to the annual general meeting. Sir Colin Corness said: "If exchange rates were to remain at their present level for the rest of 1997, the adverse impact on earnings for the whole year would be around 5 per cent."

However analysts were unfazed, saying the impact of ster-ling was anticipated and they were not changing their fore-casts. Followers also were pleasantly surprised that Glaxo's sales growth, excluding ulcer blockbuster Zantac, which comes off patent this July, was 15 per cent in constant currency. They said

\$ (Londom) 1.6405 +0.86c 1.5157

\$ (N York) # 1.6385 +0.15 1.5135

¥ (London) 194.112 -Y0.084 161.537

Oil Brent \$ 20.32 +0.75 17.63

99.3 +0.5 84.4

Yesterday Buy's clay Year Ago

Zantac's sales also feli less fast than anticipated over the period, declining by 7 per cent. One analyst said: "Fifteen pet cent underlying sales growth is first class. That puts Glaxo in the same league as players like Mer-ck, Pfizer and SmithKline."

However in a depressed market, the group's share price fell per cent to £12.51.

Also at the meeting. Sir Richard Sykes, deputy chairman and chief executive, confirmed to animal rights activists that the group was no longer awarding husiness to the Huntingdon Life Sciences drug testing group. This followed a damning undercover television programme showing some of Huntingdon's

employees mistreating dogs. Sir Ricbard said: "There is no place for this behaviour in biomedical research. After the programme we decided not to place further contracts with the company. We await a Home Office report hefore we decide whether to continue business.

£ (London) 0.5096 -0.32 0.6598

E (N Yorks# 0.6103 -0.06 0.6607

TM (Lendon) 1.7006 +0.34pt 1.5262

¥ (London) 118,325 -¥0.675 106,645

\$ Judex 103.1 -0.3 96.8

Index Latest Yr Ago Next Figs

156.3+2.4pc 150.9 19 Jun

board refuses to budge

Chris Godsmark

The new directors running Interflora will tell the organisation's 2,600 members today that they are staying in the job after receiving positive legal advice from a barrister. As turmoil continued to grip

the UK's largest flower delivery organisation yesterday it also emerged that the new Interflora board bas suspended the former company secretary and decided to close a wholesale flower subsidiary.

A sweeping review of the husiness, instigated after the vote 10 days ago to throw out the previous 11-strong board, has also uncovered advanced plans to change Interflora's status from a mutually owned organisation to a fully fledged company.
The barrister's opinion, de-

ivered to the new board's solicitor yesterday, is understood to confirm that the replacement directors do not have 10 comply with requests for a postal ballot of the entire membership. A petition of more than 400 florists sympathetic to the old board was delivered to Interflora's officers last Friday, asking for a postal vote on the reinstatement of the directors.

In a further twist, the petition did not call at the same time for the removal of the six new directors. A source close to the replacement board said the petition would therefore mean combining the two hoards. Such a move was prohibited by Interflora's articles of association, which provide for no more than 11 directors at any

"Advice from the barrister was very positive. Under the

articles they cannot have another 11 directors. They re asking for something they cannot have," said the source.

The original meeting at Warwick University saw some 1,000 members narrowly vote to dis-miss the old board, led hy chairman David Parry, who then called for a full postal hallot. Mr Parry has said he will consider taking legal advice of his own if the new board, led by Bristol florist Geoff Hugh es, refuses to comply.

While the legal argument raged, the new board an-

∠ Under the articles, they cannot have another 11 directors 9

nounced the closure of Interflora Flowers, a wholesale delivery offshoot set up three years ago to sell flowers to in-dividual member florists. Eight jobs will go in the process. Interflora said the husiness had been consistently in the red, losing £12,000 in January

Separately it also emerged that Brian Ward, the former company secretary, had been suspended from his full-time job at Interflora last Friday after disagreements with the new board. Mr Used had recommend board. Mr Ward had resigned as company secretary after the

"BECAUSE WITH DIR OF AN ERROR YOUR P



Tax and benefit is a big, big subject. Whole libraries have been written on it, many hundreds of people have devoted their lives to researching it. But no government has ever managed to

get to grips with it'

Maybe a businessman can solve this problem

on the big, burning issues of our time must seem like a bit of a betrayal to those still hankering after the ways of old Labour. Gone are beer, sandwiches and overalls. In comes chardonay, canapes and lounge suits (preferably Armani or alternative designer label). But it is also a clever move, not just because it helps bind big business into the new administration, but because it might, just might, help the Government find solutions as well.

Take tax and benefit, where Martin Taylor. chief executive of Barclays Bank, was yesterday appointed to head up the interdepartmental task force. This is a big, big subject. Whole libraries have been written on it. many hundreds of people have devoted their lives to researching it. But no government has ever managed to get to grips with it.

The political will has certainly been there,

perhaps more so under the old government than the new, but somehow nothing ever gets done outside a little ineffective tinkering. The issues seem ton complex, ton intractable for any government to steer its way through.

Why should a businessman or banker he any better at it than all those civil servants and politicians who have already tried and failed? There are plenty of reasons for believing they may actually he worse. Businessmen can operate in a very cocooned environment and quite often know little about the world outside the markets in which they operate. What they know about man-

Propositing businessmen to head up the various task forces Labour is setting up moreover, is generally learnt within the him and fire, faintly military environment of a big organisation. Public life, with Parliament and an electorate to answer to, is an entirely dif-

ferent ball game.
Nonetheless, applying the businessman's single-minded approach to the problem might belp. It is not, after all, Mr Taylor's brief to decide on policy. His is the more technical one of bringing rational analysis to the problem, helping to devise a range of different solutions from which ministers can chose. Furthermore, he comes at the issue like a company doctor, unhindered and uninfluenced by the past and all its baggage. As every businessman knows, there are always hundreds of reasons, most of them very good ones, why something can-not be done. Mr Taylor's task will be to belp find ways of overcoming them, which is not so very different, when you think about it, to

Brown's audit could be more than a gimmick

what he does already.

That a splendid picture of economic

But before concluding that everything is ing juggernaut rolled on for too long. Tax and hunky-dory with the public finances, we spending have become uncoupled. should remember that the outlook for the PSBR also depends on continuing to meet tough spending plans. Though not impossihie, the catch with these plans is that they imply a progressively tighter squeeze on pub-lic services for which demand grows over time, especially health and education.

The Government has promised to address this problem by setting clear priorities in spending. "Bad" spending on unemployment and other benefits will make way for more "good" spending on health and education. That's the idea, anyway. Gordon Brown's plan for an audit of the government's books and his promise of tough new rules in tonight's speech to the CBI to police spending have to be seen in this context. In nne sense, it is just a gimmick. There is already plenty of information about the public finances and we do not need an independent audit to make a reasonable assessment of the underlying position.

However, such an audit, if repeated on a regular basis, might come to serve a second, as yet unthought of purpose – restoring tax-payers' trust in what the government is doing with our money. The reason there is a long-What a spienfuld picture of economic bealth yesterday's figures for government borrowing present. Strong growth is boosting tax revenues above the cautious Treasury forecasts. Its target for the year looks like heing far too pessimistic. If the previnus lnt were still in power, they would be crowing about it, with some justification.

with our money. The reason there is a long-term, structural hole in the budget is that we have become increasingly unwilling to fund greater expenditure. Fiscal policy has been cynically linked to the electoral cycle, while the long-term failures of welfare spending have become all to clear. Tax cuts came to seem a political necessity, while the spend-

One way of looking at Gordon Brown's move, therefore, is as a necessary preinde to any future attempt to increase spending. Just as the Bank of England's independence will build credibility in monetary policy by putting it at one remove from political influence, an audit of the public finances might help restore credibility in fiscal policy.

Boeing merger is none of Europe's business

The dispute between Europe and the US over the proposed Boeing/McDonnell Douglas merger has been simmering along barely noticed since the deal was announced last December but it is coming to the boil nicely now that Karel Van Miert, the EU Commissioner for Competition, is preparing to send his statement of objections wing-

ing across the Atlantic.

What, you might wonder, has a merger between two US aircraft makers that will actually leave them with a smaller market share than Boeing had on its own 10 years ago got to do with Brussels?

The answer is that Mr Van Miert's writ runs wide. He has analysed the figures and concluded that the deal clearly falls foul of European merger regulations.

cial aircraft has been a running sore between the US and Europe for as long as anyone cares to remember. Certainly, in any event, since Airbus Industrie, Europe's answer to US hegemony in this area, began to win orders in Boeing's backyard.

Now that Airbus is limbering up to become a fully commercial entity - with the result that it may start to achieve Boeingstyle economies of scale and manufacturing efficiencies - Mr Van Miert smells another plot by the US to reassert ginbal domination in the shape of the exclusive long-term supply deals Boeing is stitching up with its air-line customers. The reality, however, is that the carriers Boeing has so far signed up were never hig customers of Airbus anyway. Those that are - and indeed those that are not, such as British Airways - will always put healthy competition between two suppliers

ahead nf sweetheart deals with just one. Mr Van Miert ignores this point. He also gnores the wider ramifications for EU-US trade as his comments become more bellicose. How can Europe lobby effectively against such pieces of international trade vandalism as the Helms-Burton Act when Mr Van Miert is playing into the hands of those

At this point it is necessary to recall a little history. The manufacture of large commer-

US senators who spot political motivation. The anti-trust issues raised by the Boeing-McDonnell merger, such as they are, should be left to US regulators alone. Beyond their shores the markets can be relied on to regulate Boeing's behaviour far more effectively than Mr Van Miert.

Warning on sterling hits **BA** shares

Michael Harrison

British Airways shares fell sharply yesterday as the airline warned that the strength of terling could knock more than 2100m off its profits this year.

The warning, combined with signs of mounting industrial un-rest among BA staff and a lack of any firm news on its transatlance with American Airlines, took the gloss off another record performance last year as pre-tax profits reached a new peak of £640m.

Sir Colin Marshall, BA's chairman, said it was a source of frustration that the tie-up with American was still awaiting approval from Whitehall, Washington and Brussels almost

a year after it was first unveiled. Both Sir Colin and BA's chief executive, Bob Ayling, contrasted the delays with the way Lufthansa and United were forging ahead with their Star alliance and said that it was essential for the partnership with American to be approved so the two airlines could compete on

an equal basis. However, Mr Ayling gave lit-tle indication that BA was close to getting the green light from the new President of the Board of Trade, Margaret Beckett. saying merely that BA was picking up the threads" with the

Competition lawyers warned yesterday that the £24bn merger between Gunness and

Grand Metropolitan was high-

ly unlikely to he approved by

regulators unless the two com-

panies agreed to significant di-

They believe the enlarged

group, GMG Brands, will be forced to sell leading hrands in

certain markets, particularly in

the US. They dismissed the

Guinness and GrandMet view

that no disposals would be nec-

merger expressing confidence

because if they say they are pre-

pared to make divestments then

"Most companies go into a

essary as mere "hravado".

vestments.

new Government in the expectation that a decision would be reached with all due despatch.

Last year's 9 per cent climb in profits was struck after BA took an exceptional charge of £127m to cover redundancies resulting from its business efficiency programme under which BA has so far identified savings of £600m out of the target of £1bn. At the same time it wrote £125m back into the profit and loss account after revolving its stake in US-Air at its original cost.

The sale of the 24.6 per cent shareholding is expected to raise around \$500m (£305m) against the \$400m BA originally invested. At the operating level profits fell by £55m from £728m m 1995-96 to £673m last year. The reduction was largely due to a steep rise in fuel prices this year which cost BA £142m.

In the current year, the biggest drag factor on BA is likely to be the strength of sterling. Derek Stevens, BA's finance di-

following the lead of American and Delta in the US and signing an exclusive supply deal with Boeing to purchase all its aircraft on a long term basis - the source of trade friction between Europe and the US.

David Aitman, head of com-petition law at Denton Hall. "I

think they will probably get it through but not without pain."

Competition lawyers have identified two main obstacles

that could disrupt the merger.

The first is how the competition

authorities choose to define

the markets in which Guinness

and GrandMet compete. The

second issue is the combined ad-

vertising spend of the two com-

panies, which could act as a barrier to entry to rivals. On market definition, Guin-

ness and GrandMet have been

keen to use the broadest pos-

UK BANKS AND BUILDING SOCIETIES



Frustrated: Sir Colin Marshall is still waiting for word from Whitehall, Washington and Brussels Photograph: Adrian Dennis

Strike threat grows despite £1,100 bonuses

Barrie Clement

ween Europe and the US.

Investment column, page 22

of new pay and conditions, it emerged that a further 8,000

ground staff were heading for pany of behaving like "a 19th The extra benefits are the a vote on industrial action over mill owner" and he demanded equivalent of 3.3 weeks' basic

cused of provoking employees by staging a "midnight raid" on union offices on BA premises at Heathrow and Gatwick last Friday in which they allegedly stole T&G documents before

out to employees made up of an £89m share of the profits and IO free BA shares each.

last year's award which amounted to 3.9 weeks' wages. Its decision to hand over 10

free shares was made because of the "efforts of employees in a particularly demanding year". Some union representatives, however, characterised the bonus as useful strike pay and said that it amounted to a simple bribe.

IN BRIEF

Greenalls to create 2,000 jobs

Greenalls, the UK's higgest independent puh group, expects to create more than 2,000 jobs with a £375m capital expenditure programme over the next two years. The group, which in March announced a shake-up of its managed pull operation to save £3.5m a year, said it expected to lift the number of its hranded and concept outlets from around 360 to 500 by March 1999 under trading names such as Millers Kitchen, Henry's Table and Quincey's. Around two-thirds of the jobs will be part-time. Disposals this year are expected to raise around £60m, including 100 tenanted pubs and four hotels from the De Vere chain. The group reported underlying pre-tax profits up 12 per cent to £63.9m in the six months to March and is raising the interim dividend 7.7 per cent to 6.7p. Investment column, page 22

Stock Exchange tightens AIM regulations

The London Stock Exchange is implementing several changes to the rules governing admission to the Alternative Investment Market. Companies will now be required to disclose the name of anyone who has received fees or shares worth £10,000 or more in the 12 months prior to joining AIM. In addition, companies must undertake regular reviews of their actual financial performance compared with projections made in the AIM admission documents, with immediate notification of any material change in trading performance. The Exchange also said there would be greater emphasis on the specific responsibility of nominated advisers to satisfy themselves that a company was appropriate for admission to AIM.

Hitachi Credit to float in London

Hitachi Credit (UK) will be valued at up to £50m when it becomes the first Japanese company to float in London. The plac-ing, due to take place in the summer, will raise between £15m and £20m for the credit finance company, part of the giant Japan-ese Hitachi conglomerate. Established in 1982, HCUK provides finance for plant and equipment, retail credit, contract hire and fleet management services and insurance. Pre-tax profits rose 34 per cent to £3.7m in the year to March.

US companies search for space in City

A survey of 10 US financial groups shows they are searching for a total of 1.4 million square feet of office space in the City of London, representing a possible 10,000 new jobs. Chesterton has surveyed institutions including Goldman Sachs, Andersen Consulting and Merrill Lynch and found that the Americans have aggressive expansion plans for the Square Mile. Goldman and Merrill both need 300,000 square feet while Credit Suisse First Boston and Andersen Consulting are looking for around 150,000 square feet and JP Morgan is looking for 100,000 square feet.

Visual Action buys MES for £23m

Visual Action Holdings is buying MES, the exhibition services provider, for a maximum to £23.1m. In addition, Visual Action is selling the film services division to Panavision for £37.5m. "The acquisition of MES extends the range of services we provide to the corporate meetings industry. Taken together the acquisition and disposal increase the focus of our operations and enhancethe group's growth prospects," said Bob Ellis, chief executive of Visual Action. "We plan to invest the remaining disposal proceeds in developing our activities in the corporate meetings and broadcast video markets both organically and by further acquisitions."

Cattles sells stake in Rosebys

Cattles, the consumer finance group, has sold its remaining 23 per cent stake in Rosebys, the retailers of household textiles, for £23.1m, equal to 275p a share. The sale realises a profit of £15.7m before tax and expenses, and completes the disposal of non-core businesses begun in 1992. The sale had timed to take advantage of a rare opportunity when it had been possible for a major stakeholder to sell, Eddie Cran, chief executive, said. The consumer finance sector has fallen 5 per cent following reports of Government plans to curb high credit charges. However, the City believes any action to curb penalty charges levied by non-status lenders such as City Mortgage Corporation should not apply to home credit companies such as Cattles and the market leader, Provident Financial. Rosebys fell 2.5p to 297.5p and Cattles 3.5p to 311p.

the planned sell-off of the air- the return of the missing papers. pay - somewhat lower than British Airways faces growing line's catering division. Amid signs of anger among rector, said that currency losses could run into three figures. Mr Ayling all but ruled out industrial unrest despite an Management were also acsections of the workforce, the announcement vesterday that airline announced a £94m pay-

Competition lawyers see trouble ahead for the £24bn merger. Nigel Cope reports

tively small. They say they have of the toilet tissue, kitchen less than 5 per cent of the towels and handkerchief marglobal spirits market. On a kets would have ranged from 50

Labour Editor

its 58,000 workers were to receive a bonns worth at least £1,100 for UK employees.

As union leaders prepared for a strike ballot of 8,500 cabin crew over the imposition

slightly hroader definition, which strips out locally produced "hooch", they claim

10 per cent of the "accessible"

However, precedents sug-

gest that the European Com-mission could judge the merger

on GMG Brands' share of par-

ticular spirits sectors in specif-

For example, in the £4.4bn merger of Kimberley-Clark and Scott Paper in 1995, the EC

made it a condition of approval

that the enlarged company sold certain brands because its share

spirits market.

ic member states.

changing the locks on doors.

Bill Morris, general secretary of the union, accused the com-

to 75 per cent.

GMG Brands would have

more than 50 per cent of the

UK Scotch market and huge

market shares in other spirits

sectors in Spain and Belgium.

"I would have thought there was a strong possibility that they (the EC) would look at the merger

on a member state basis," said

might have to be made in the US, where GMG Brands will

have around 75 per cent of the

Mr Aitman.

The bonus marked the tenth anniversary of the privatisation of the national carrier, which yesterday revealed record pretax profits of £640m.

He said the US authorities

such as the Federal Trade Com-

mission and the Department of

Justice adopt a stricter analysis

of market share concentrations

The Guinness argument that

Scotch, gin and vodka are not

separate markets but all part of

a broader spirits market in

which the companies compete,

two companies argued that they were competing not just in the

than the EC.

Guinness and GrandMet 'will have to sell brands' mineral water market but in the broader arena of soft drinks. standard Scotch market with The EC rejected the plea. hrands such as Dewar's, Asked yesterday whether Johnnie Walker and J&B Rare.

these cases did not bode ill for GMG Brands, Tony Greener, chairman of Guinness said. "We obviously don't think so or we wouldn't be doing what we are doing." However he declined to dis-

cuss individual markets. He also denied that the combined advertising spend of the two companies might represent a problem. Last year Guinness Simon Polito, EC and competition partner at Lovell White Durrant, feels divestments might have to be made in the merger in 1992. In that case the spent £597m on advertising and marketing, of which £332m was in the United Distillers spirits division. GrandMet spent a total of £1.2bn of which £427m was on its IDV spirits brands.

the authorities will probably ask them to make even more," said sible measures to make their combined share appear rela-

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DD YOUR DOUGH

Goldsborough begins homes sale

Sameena Ahmad

Goldsborough Healthcare, the nursing home group which last summer fought off a £77m bid from the UK's second-largest op-erator. Westminster Healthcare. is selling half its nursing home portfolio. A leak of the news. which forced Goldsborough to issue a statement to the Stock Exchange late yesterday, came on the same day as a US group confirmed it was buying the UK nursing home operator Quality Care Homes for £46.3m casb.

Both deals are evidence of rapid restructuring and consolidation in a sector plagued by profit warnings and depressed share prices, analysis claim. The bid for Quality Care by US investment group Principal Healthcare leaves just seven nursing home players quoted on the UK stock market compared to 13 less than a year ago.

Christopher Sharples, the for-mer head of the Securities &

Futures Authority and his part-

ner. David Taylor, will be worth

£8m on paper when Royalblue

the software company they set

up in 1982 is floated on the

Stock Exchange next month.

The two partners between

them bold about 40 per cent of

the company, the management a further 25 per cent, and

venture capital backers Advent

bas 20 per cent and 3i bas 15 per

cent. The flotation is expected

to value the company at around

The shareholders will each

writes Clifford German.

Part disposal of nursing home portfolio and cash bid for Quality Care herald consolidation of the sector

Andrew Richmond, a health-care analyst from Collins Stewended when local authorities were given control of nursing art, said: "I have been saying since 1995 that we'll see takeovers emerging in this industry." Pat Carter, chief executive of

Westminster Healthcare, said he thought there would be just a handful of major players left in the market in a few years. The trouble with nursing

homes, said analysts, was that too many companies tried to build too many homes in the 1980s, driven by exciting projections of growth in the number of elderly people needing professional care. At the time there was plenty of government money to pay for care, which led to explosive growth in the number of nursing homes. However the honeymoon

Float to value Royalblue at £40m

sell around 20 per cent of their

shares by way of a placing, and

the group will raise £10m in new

money. The company was orig-

inally Intercom data Systems be-

fore being renamed last year.

the company's profile, and

finance future business ventures.

Hoare Govett is the financial

adviser, sponsor and broker to

the company. The company's

turnover has grown by 50 per cent

and profits by184 per cent com-

pound over the last three years.

Profits reached £2.02m in 1996.

staff, based in Woking with

Royalblue employs about 160

on turnover of £11.68m.

The float is intended to raise

home funding in the early 1990s. Cash for admissions dried up and the number of occupied nursing home beds fell. With high fixed costs, the operators' profits came under pressure and share prices fell.

The difficulty of the sector

was one reason that Goldsbor-ough was exiting from musting homes, said observers. The company has gradually reduced its dependence on homes, now around balf of total profits compared 77 per cent at flota-tion in 1994, favouring instead its infore predictable frome care. and hospitals businesses. They had taken the nursing home side as far as they could,"

offices in London and New

York. It bas 450 customers, the

largest of which accounted for

8 per cent of revenues over the

last three years. The company

is a market leader in supplying

software products and services

to three distinct and fast-

three distinct and fast-growing markets according to the adminder prospectus pub-lished vesterday. Its products include fideasa, a trading support system for dealers it international markets,

HelpDesk Which produces soft-

ware for IT help desks and cus-

tomer support systems and

Rostrym, a computer telepho-

my integration system.

said one top industry boss.

tracted by the low valuations in the sector and maturity of their own market have been moving into the UK. Sun Healthcare has snapped up two quoted

UK players, Apta and Ash-bourne, in the past 12 months. Observers see the move he Principal as the next stage. Principal will own Quality Care's 2,256 beds, but will sot operate them, leasing most of them out to quoted UK tiedles.

They needed the cash to do something else."

Goldsborough, which owns around 31 muring homes, said it was in early talks to sell some homes. However it is thought to be selling 15 five in London and eight in the Mellands, through estate area in Chestertons.

Dayer are interest to be from the united at the control of selling to the want to use the Cast to five private home care. This need to want to use the Cast to five private home care. This need to the group says it expects so sell its portfolio for a set which observers worry that which is the strong a forced sale are in a strong position to other a lower price. Chai Patel, chief executive of the UK's biggest quoted player. Care First, said "There is a clear separation between the owners and operators of thirsing bomes in the USA, but not here. These deals allow operators to expand the number of homes they have without resorting to the City or banks, I think there will be much more of this kind of financing in the

15,05p (13.65p) 15.05p (18.65p)

Company Results

Aberdays Keilif Reg () 10.34m (9.17m) 3.28m (3.38m) 2.76p (2.96p) 1.25p (1p)

12 12 97m (11 92m) 168,000 (750,000) 0.87p (2.58b) 2.0n (2.01)

25.64m (20.27m) 4.21m (8.73m) 12.16a (12.58a) 6.2a (6.8a)

48.99m (45.76m) 1.88m (1.32m) 6.3p (5.0p) 2.3p (1.8p)

16.25m (14.47m) 2.63m (2.35m) 15.6p (13.7p) 7.0p (6.0p)

557,7m (544.9m) 63.9m (57m)

THE INVESTMENT COLUMN

Record profits but BA hits pockets of turbulence

ritish Airways discovered long ago that it (up, incidentally, by 3,000 in a takes more than another set of record profits 10 wage freezes and staff reductions to the set of th er set of record profits to make its shares fly and yesforday was no exception. The sharket chose to disregard the per cent climb in pro-tax profits last year to £640m, preferring to concentrate instead on the pockets of turbulence that BA is encountering. First, however, the good

news. The rise in fuel prices, which sliced £142m off profits last year, has gone into reverse allowing BA to factor in a gain of some £60m for the current year. Second, the economic outlook is good in most of BA's main markets, notably the US and UK, suggesting that it should be able to maintain, if not improve, on passenger yields. Third, the Business efficiency programme is reaping returns at ast in line with the airline's expectations. The measures announced so far will deliver £600m of the £1bn of savings BA is aiming to achieve by the

turn of the century. Now for the less good tidings. There is still no positive news on regulatory approval for the grand transatiannic alliance with American Airlines, while the strength of sterling could trim more than £100m from profits this year and industrial unrest is building up. Unions are now threatening to follow up the current ballot of cabin crew with another among catering staff.
Of these, the absence of any

regulatory green light for the AA alliance is the most frustrating. It is now approaching a year since the partnership was first announced and the two airlines are still awaiting clearance in Whitehall, Brussels and Washington, Contrast that with the rather extravagant way that Lufthansa, United and their partner airlines chose to launch their grandiose Star alliance in Frankfurt last week.

The betting remains that BA will get the necessary clearances. But the question is at what price. particularly with Margaret Beckett and her new team of ministers and special advisers around at the Department of Trade and Industry demonconcept of national champions. The souring of industrial re-

lations is a more ominous portent for BA, since the success

hinges on its 58,000 workforce tions along with the relocation

or outsourcing of their jobs.

Bob Ayling, BA's chief executive, says there is no appetite for industrial action but until there is some positive news on the AA alliance, there may not be much investor appetite for BA either.

The shares, down 24p to 736p after a strong run, are hardly on an astronomic rating. Profits this year of £720m would put them on a forward multiple of under 14. Still, investors should wait for the turbulence to pass.

Greenalls set to spend more

reenalls, now the biggest independent pub owner since taking over Boddingtons in 1995, was making much of its accelerating capital expenditure programme vesterday. This is set to grow from £175m this year to £200m in 1998, which spells good news for the 2,000 or more extra employees being taken on as the group develops its theme bars, ranging from Millers Kitchen for the family

to Henry's Table steakhouses. But the City remains unimpressed: after underperforming the market by 28 per cent over the last six months, the shares fell another 3.5p to 490.5p yes-

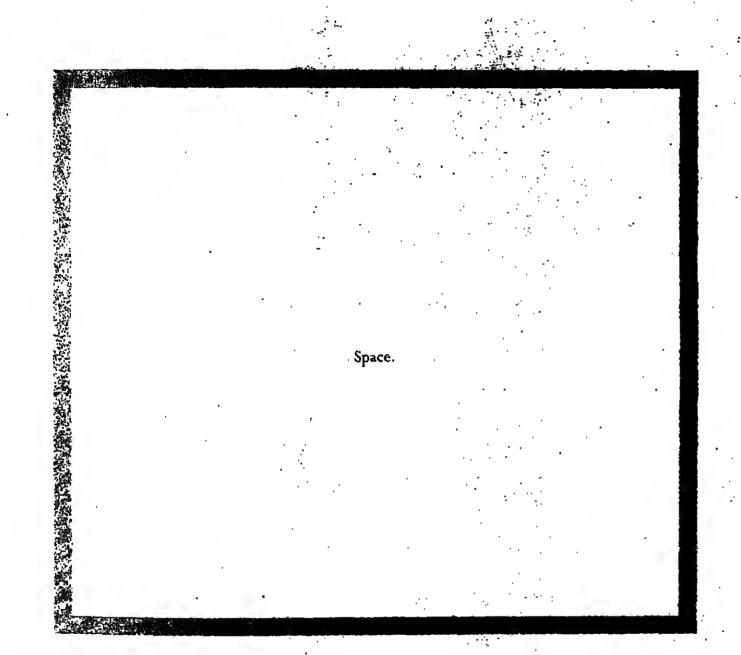
terday. There were gripes over profits up from £27.1m to £57.8m in the six months to March seen as a mite disappointing. Hoare Govett trimmed its full-year forecast by £5m to £162m as a result.

Even so, underlying operating profits up 14 per cent to £88.6m look comparable with highly regarded rivals Whit-bread. Sales growth in the managed pubs and restaurants business ranging from 3.8 per cent in drinks to 20.5 per cent in slot machines looks at least as good and in some cases much better than Whitbread.

The plan is to take branded and "concept" bars from 360 to 500 over the next two years. while shifting 245 managed pubs to tenancies will maintain Greenalls' beer volumes. The group is the biggest customer of Bass, Carlsberg-Tetley and Whitbread, putting it in a strong position when contracts are renegotiated in Sep-

tember 1998. The real problem is that, held back for at least a year by the takeover of Boddington, it is having to run to catch up with the likes of Whithread, which has been investing heavily in its pubs for years. Gearing is still likely to be above 60 per cent next year, when the consumer boom may be looking a bittle mature. Greenalls was warning yesterday that trading in Northwest England is currently difficult. Standing on a forward p/e of 13, the shares therefore look a hold.

THE PARTY OF THE P



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Trading record* 1993 1994 1995 1996 1997 Pre-tax profits (£m) 280 Earnings per share (p) 21.4. 772 743 445 365 215 11,1 12,4 13.7 15.1 Dividends per share (p) 10.2 Passengers carried* Share price

British Airways: At a glance

Market value: £7,37bn, share price 736p

Cattles sell-off looks a sensible option

Nattles, the Yorkshire-based door-to- £2.02m to Cattles' total pre-tax profit of yesterday's sale of its remaining 23 per cent stake in Rosebys, the household textile retailer. In the sbort run that will reduce debt. although the group speaks expansively about significant opportunities in its core markets, with the prospect of the funds being reinvested

Rosebys was one of the non-core husinesses floated off in 1992, when it was valued at around a £120m company through successive acquisi-tions and rights issues, while Cattles' original post-flotation stake of 48 per cent has been difuted to the point were the next deal would take it below the 20 per cent level at which its profits can be equity accounted.

So despite being done at a near 8 per cent discount to the share price, down 2.5p at 297.5p. yesterday's deal looked sensible. In the latest year to December, the stake contributed

door credit group, will raise £23.1m from £33.9m and 1p to total earnings of 17p. The proceeds should reduce debt, which totalled 148m at the year end.

Shopacheck the door-to-door collection division is still the largest chunk of Cattle's business, but rapid growth in Welcome, the conventional loan husiness, and the factoring and easing divisions has diluted Shopacheck's contribution from 96 per cent of the total profits in 1994 to 65 per cent last year. Group prof-£20m. Since then, the offspring bas grown to its grew 40 per cent in 1995 and another 20 per cent last year. Even assuming a half million dilution from the disposal, analysts still expect profits to grow to £37.7m this year, rising to £42.3m in 1998.

The sector has been adversely affected by rumours of a Government clamp-down on weekly collected credit, but the industry is confident it will escape any such moves. Down 2.5p to 311p, the shares look fairly rated on a forward multiple of 17, dropping to 15.

CWC spends £50m on * move to Mercury office

Chris Godsmark **Business Correspondent**

Cable & Wireless Communications, the recently merged cable group, has settled its accommodation problems with a pro-visional deal worth more than £50m to take over the central London headquarters built for the Mercury phones network.

It has also emerged that the Cable & Wireless parent group, which hult New Mercury House for its UK telephones subsidiary in 1989, took a £70m provision in its annual results last week to cover losses on the value of the office block. Details of the write-off were disclosed to analysts by Robert Lerwill, C&W's finance director.

Cable & Wireless Communications (CWC) also yesterday announced the appointment of a chief operating officer to work alongside Graham Wal-lace, chief executive. He is Greg Clarke, chief executive of C&W's mobile operation.

The option to take over the covered the drop in property Mercury building agreed by rental values during the reces-CWC brings the demise of the sion. Mercury brand and corporate structure a step closer. The CWC merger, completed last month, saw Mercury combined with three cable operators, Nynex CableComms, Bell Ca-

Some 500 managers are expected to lose their jobs over the next few months as the four companies move into the Mercury headquarters and restructure their administrative operations. CWC plans to launch a single brand name us-ing the Cable & Wireless corporate identity by autumn.

blemedia and Videotron.

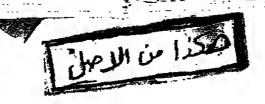
C&W entered into a complex financing arrangement when it
leased the building to Mercury

The deal caused controver in 1990. The £70m provision reflects the difference between the value of some £120m in the original deal and the potential purchase price for CWC, understood to be more than £50m. Mr Lerwill said the provision

Nicholas Mearing Smith, CWC's finance director, confirmed the group had agreed an option to buy out the huilding with C&W. 'It's a substantial building and it's in the middle of London. We need some prestige office space for a company which has many large UK busi-

nesses as its clients," he said. The headquarters was a source of friction between Mercury and its C&W parent. New Mercury House, directly opposite C&W's offices, was planned at the peak of the 1980s boom by Stanhope Properties, the troubled developer bought by

The deal caused controversy inside Mercury because Lord Sharp, the late C&W chairman, was also on the board of Stanbope. Lord Sbarp, who died in 1994, did not vote on the decision to go ahead with the



Data Bank FTSE 100 4645.2 -48.7 FISE 250 4510.4 -15,3 FTSE 350 2251.5

SEAQ VOLUME 633.6m shares, 49,821 bargains



Transatlantic interest rate ing and a weak futures market worries gnawed away at also contributed to the unsetequities, dragging Footsic 48.7

points lower. it was, surprisingly, the biggest one-day decline since as long ago as April Fool's Day, when the stock market was again wrestling with US rates. Since then the market has heen in rampant form, climb-

ing more than 400 points. Blair upsurge or merely a worst leaker, fell 9p to 673p hiccup in the rise to Footsie and Hyder dipped 16p to at 5,000 points?

Most observers were in-

tled atmosphere. Some lumpy lines of stock were said to be on offer. Cadbory Schweppes weakened 11p to 532.5p on fears of a bovering line and Tesco, off 2p at 392p, was another where shares were on offer.

Waters took a gentle bath as John Prescott, Deputy Prime After such a long hull run a downbeat performance was inevitable. Could it signal the end of what many regard as the so oo. Thames, said to be the

837.5p. Southern Electric, the last of Most observers were inclined to the view that blue chips, if not the supporting stocks, still had a great deal of life left in them. "It had to happen; an uneasy Monday pulls in some profit-takers," said one long-time market man.

Southern Electric, the iast of the independent regional electricity companies, fell 17p to 409.5p. On Friday HSBC James Capel paid just under 420p a share for an 8 per cent stake. There is talk that the stock has not been enthusiasstake. There is talk that the Anglo-Dutch food and soap



MARKET REPORT

Traders stay calm as Footsie falls nearly 50 points

DEREK PAIN stock market reporter of the year

the stake still on its books. Footsie ended at 4,645.2; dividend payments stripped out 3.6 points. The supporting FTSE 250 index fell 15.3 to

Carlton Communications, with year's figures tomorrow, retreated 17.5p to 507p with a cautious BZW media review doing much of the damage. Profits are expected to emerge

at £1615m against £143.3m. Reckitt & Colman, for long regarded as the most likely Unilever victim, fell 18p to 896p on reports that the

Abbey National continued to display resilience. At one time down 15p, it rose to record a 5.5p gain before settling at 959.5p, off 1.5p.

Premier Farnell, the electronic components group, rose 12.5p to 484p on talk of analyst meetings, and vehicles group Henlys, riding high at 425p, up 8.5p, was another said to be planning the analytical

Harrisons & Crosfield, involved in chemicals and timber, gained 7p to 111p on break-up hopes. Lonrho's talks with South African Johannesburg

maming 22.9 per cent stake at 275p through Charterhouse Tilney. Eight institutions took

Manchester United lost op to 628p following the retirement of Eric Cantona, and Chelsea. despite its FA Cup triumph, fell 10p to 116p on worries that the late Matthew Harding's estate was about to be liquidated. A sale of 402,000 shares last week aroused fears that the stake will be dribbled on to the market. Heart of Midlothian, the Scottish Premier club, kicked off

with a 1.5p premium against the 140p placing.
MEPC was little changed at
497p as the rumoured £2.2bn bid from British Land, off 14p at 583.5p, failed to

lost 2.5p to 297.5p as Cattles, extremely negative comments. DLondon & Metropolitan, the credit company, sold its re-Cirqual, the engineer, fell 8.5p to 249p; Charterhouse placed

shares at 248p to raise flom.

Silk Industries was the day's it as "a shell in the making smartest performer, jumping in the buoyant property 52 per ceot to 103.5p. The silk sector". The company has fabrics group produced profits of £2.6m against £2.3m and its main banker, Bank of made confident noises about future trading.

services group, rebounded 8p to 73.5p and Allied Leisure, tollowing director buying, ral-lied 3p to 34.5p. Suggestions that Hambro

Countrywide was the lurking hidder for estate agents John D Wood produced an 11p gain to 146p.

Countryside Properties, in-

sector". The company has agreed a restructuring with Scotland. As part of the deal BoS reduced its stake to 12.2 Utilitec, the gas and water per cent, selling shares to L&M's directors. If the restructuring goes as planned the group will be near debt free with a few properties. The shares are at their best for more than two

Taking Stock

group, jumped 1.75p to 7.25p as one stockbroker described

countryside Properties, in-terim figures today, moved ahead 4p to 100p. There are hopes that the Essex house-builder will double profits to builder will double profits to grew out of the Bookshop,

	man clack has not have enthusias	Anglo-Dutch food and soap giant was eyeing a US acquisition. On the financial front,	South African Johannesburg Consolidated lifted the shares 5p to 140p. Rosebys, the linen retailer,	company, fell 2.5p to a 75p low on talk that a leading securi-	builder will double profits to around £2m. In its last full year countryside made £3.1m and said in March it was trading well. grew out of the Bookshop, one of Ofex's high flyers. IMS expects to hreak even it the first half of next year.	
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If Greenspan gets it wrong, Europe will feel the pinch

This week all eyes in the world of finance will be on Wash-ington, where today the Federal Reserve Open Market Committee has its monthly meeting on interest rates. The immediate question it faces is whether to sanction another rise in US rates, for there has been considerable concern about the rapid growth of the US economy during the first quarter of the year.

The commentators are divided as to which way the Fed will jump. but the halance of opinion is that it will agree to a quarter per cent rise in rates. The argument for that is that though there is as yet little sign of renewed inflation, there is considerable pressure in the economy, particularly in the labour market: a falling unemployment rate and a rise in overtime hours. The low inflation, it is argued is the result of past economic conditions and in particular the way in which rising demand for labour has coincided with rising joh insecurity. The result has been that, so far, demand for labour has not resulted in rising wage pressures. But ohviously this will eventually happen.

The argument against a rise this week is that the rapid growth of the first quarter seems to have eased a bit now. Given the low inflation, a rise in rates may not be needed or in any case can wait until there is evidence that it is.

Now, no one outside the Fed has any idea which way it will jump, and Alan Greenspan has been careful in recent weeks to give his usual contradictory signals. In any case while it may be of great interest to aficionados of monetary policy. whether US interest rates move by a quarter per cent this month, or next, or the month after, is not really going to get people dancing in

That said, however, US monetary



Hamish McRae

If the dollar moves even halfway back towards its trough.

the entire continental economy would be in difficulty

an important impact on the profile of the coming dollar decline. We do not, of course, know that the dollar has indeed turned. But the market seems to have taken to heart last month's Group of Seven statement that the currency ought to stabilise, and the most recent decline against the yen has broken the unward trend line. For people who follow charts, this is apparently significant: while no one is suggesting that the dollar ven rate might go back

to the Y80 region it hit two years ago.

a rate in the Y105-110 range is now

The dollar against the yen and the mark

considered perfectly plausible.

casts for the dollar, against both the mark and the yen, are shown in the chart. Deutsche Morgan Grenfell, which produced them, reckons it is unlikely that the dollar will weaken substantially in the next few months, for a sustained decline would add to inflationary pressures in the US and so would be met by a policy tight-ening. In fact in the short-run it expects the dollar to recover a bit. But it does expect some modest fall next year, as the chart shows.

If that is what happens, every-

thing is fine. Or rather things are fine in the sense that currency rates will not damage the world economy. Stability between the three main currencies is particularly important at the moment, for were the dol-lar to fall too fast, that would undermine the economic recoveries of Japan and Germany, both of which remain fragile. The dollar at present levels may still seem cheap in terms of its purchasing power parity - on those grounds it could rise another 10-15 per cent without looking overvalued. But a cheap-ish dollar is appropriate because the US still has a significant structural current account deficit. If you believe that there ever can be a "right" rate for the dollar, it is prob-

ably just about there oow. Looking ahead, though, there are risks. One of these is that the dol-lar will weaken too quickly. This would be likely to happen were the Fed seen as being tardy in the pace at which it increased interest rates. The whole Continental recovery, insofar as it exists, is driven by exports: domestic demand in France, Germany and Italy is flat, as the retail

sales for those three countries show. In all three countries the year-onyear change in retail sales is minus 3-4 per cent, a much bigger decline than at any stage here in the UK dur-ing the last recession. At the present exchange rates, continental European exports are competitive on world markets. If the dollar moves even halfway back towards its trough of two years ago, they would be back in some difficulty. Since there is nothing else to boost demand, the entire continental economy would be in difficulty too.

So if, following today's meeting, there is no change in US rates, watch the foreign exchanges to see how the dollar reacts. Serious weakness of the dollar in the coming months is bad oews for Europe.

The opposite danger also exists. The turn in the dollar has been largely the result of words: state-ments by the G7 and the Japanese authorities, maybe backed from time to time by central hank intervention in the markets. Were the markets to decide that this was a hit of a mistake - that, for example, a mark due to be converted into a weak curo is not a currency to hold - then we could be back to an overvalued dollar next year. Were the Fed to cootinue pushing US interest rates upwards through this year, the upward pressure would be all the greater. This would help Eu-rope's recovery and further fuel Japan's, but in the long term, damage to US competitiveness carries dangers. At some stage the US boom will end. Can it achieved a soft

The central point here is there is always the danger that the Fed will make a mistake. Dr Greenspan has achieved mythical status for managing the long, non-inflation-ary US expansion. That is fine, but it is also alarming for the success is not entirely his (or the Fed's) work. There is considerable complacency in financial markets at the moment. But we are moving into a period of rising world interest rates - always a difficult part of the cycle. Among the brokers, UBS is worried about this complacency, and I think it is right to be.

landing, or will that be a hard one?

London's answer to the International Trade Centre

Goodbye NatWest Tower, hello International Financial Centre. Lord Alexander swapped his role as Nat West's chairman for that of property agent yesterday as he sought tenants for the newly refurbished tower at the heart of

the City.

The bank has spent £75m doing up the highest tower in the City (now dwarfed by the Canary Wharf tower, inside which I now pen these words). NatWest has moved to new premises, following the last IRA bomb, and is instead offering a custom-designed service to tenants.

The floors of the 1980s tower, at only 9,000 square feet, are tmy in comparison to the footballpitch-sized trading floors that most big City houses want these days. Instead Lord Alexander is offering small "executive" units right at the centre of the action. And you get a swimming pool, sky-high restaurant and floorlevel case into the bargain.

Lord Alexander tells me they had "loads" of suggestions for new names for the place, with Millennium Tower a strong contender. But he thought that might date. "We had in mind the International Trade Centre in New York. This sounds similar, which might strike a chord with our American friends."

One other thing. Lord Alexander says the design of the tower is "absolutely, categorically not" based upon NatWest's triangular

One of the best-known retail analysts in the City, Nick Bubb, has surprised everyone by upping stumps at MeesPierson to join Société Générale Strauss Turnbull, the same outfit that has just hired Nicola Herlick to build up its asset management side.

There the similarities eod, I am happy to say. Mr Bubb is described by one colleague as "tall, angular, softly spoken, quite a good chap really".

Mr Bubh will replace Robert Snaith, who retired from SocGen Strauss Turnbull earlier this year, At the moment Mr Bubb is spending a month's gardening leave at his home in Richmond, Surrey. Mr Bubb is a former number

PEOPLE & BUSINESS



Estate agent: Lord Alexander is looking for tenants

one-rated Extel analyst, and had his work cut out at MeesPierson, where he combined the roles of food analyst and stores analyst. Most brokers split the roles. Before MeesPierson he worked at Morgan Stanley with Julie Ramshaw, who is now a director of Laura Ashley. Hopefully his move doesn't mean he'll be storming round Frankfurt too often.

New Labour, New Lounge Suit. Gordon Brown's mania for dressing down has struck again, this time at the CBI annual dinner at London's Grosvenor Hotel tonight. Last week it emerged that Mr Brown was ditching the black tie dress code for the Mansion House speech, due next month. Now he is doing the same thing for the CBI speech.

Will this hit profits at Moss Bros? After all, the company makes a hefty chunk of its income hiring out penguin suits to husinessmen attending such functions. Already hundreds of hirings may have been lost with these two events alone - what if the New Labour campaign to abolish the black tie catches oo?

Alan Pfaff, manager of Moss Bros's Covent Garden store in central London, is unfazed. "We think it's a shame. But we

have still had a lot of people from both occasions [CBI and Mansion House] hiring suits." Ah ha! So there is a stirring of rebellion from the City die hards? Mr Pfaff says: "There are a lot of traditionalists. People enjoy these occasions and dressing up." Overall, he adds, Moss Bros's

wing

business is 5 per cent up on last year. Has he detected any other public events where formal attire is being dained? "No. We're hir-ing out suits to a wider spectrum

of the public than ever, especially for weddings.

Mr. Pfaff gets decidedly saiffy about so-called "dressing down days" which have been imported by American businesses. "On the other hand, we sell a lot of casual stuff too." Don't go dumping your Moss Bros shares just yet.

George Staple courted enough controversy when he was director of the Serious Fraud Office, but now he's back at his old City law firm Clifford Chance they've put him in charge of the "contentious

So how contentious are you going to get oow, George? "It's just the department that deals with anything to do with disputes and litigation," he explains. His fraud experience will come

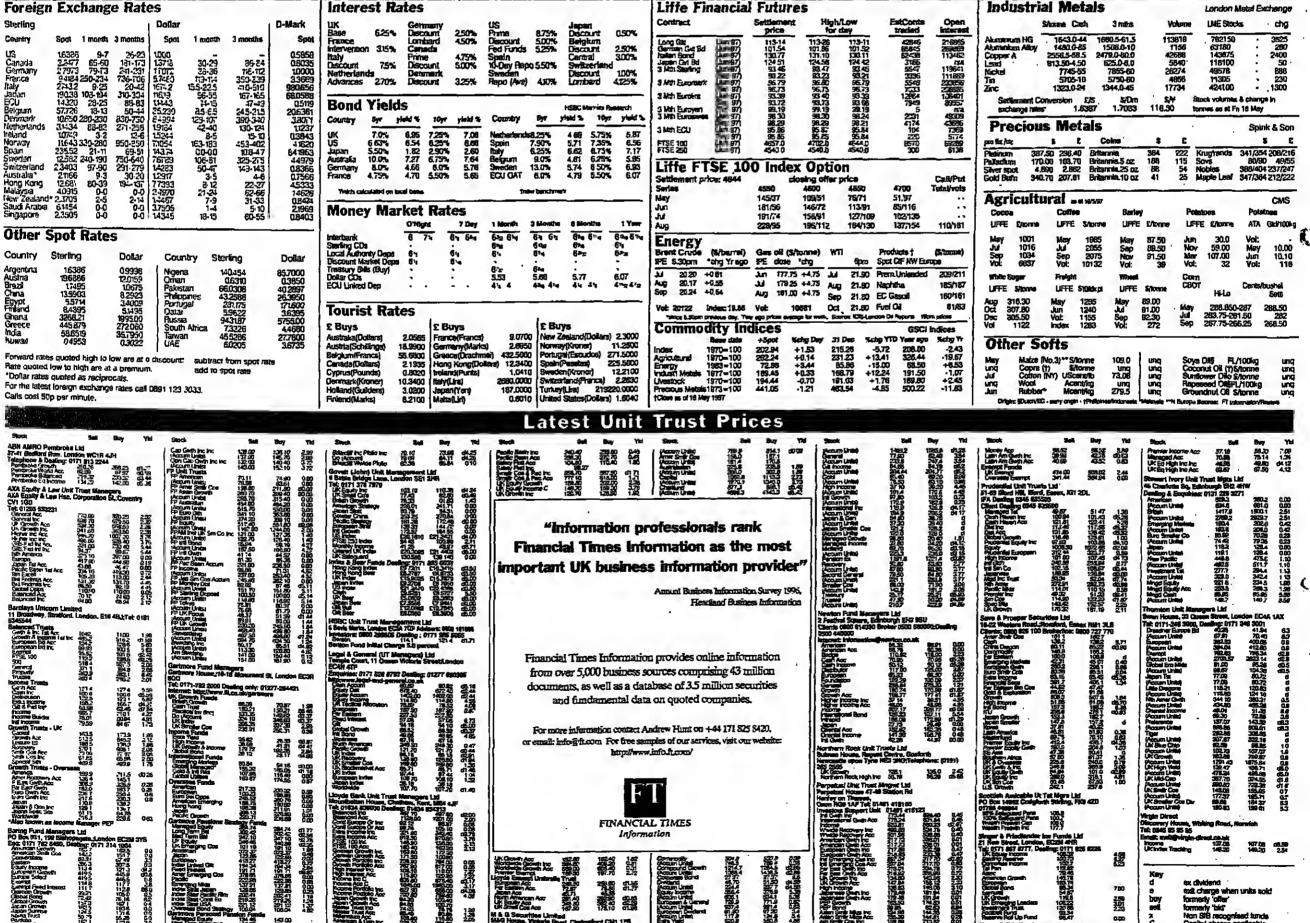
in handy. "Fraud is the scourge of business nowadays, I'm afraid." So will his new pay package be far vaster than his SFO salary? "Not by huge multiples, no. We're oot

talking mega-bucks."
Shame. Especially so, since his new office is only one-third the size of his old SFO one. "I used to have meetings in my old room, which I don't here," he says. And what if - horrors - he

were to find himself representing a client who he had a go at prosecuting when he was at the SFO? "I wouldn't be involved in the case if it happened, I think it's most unlikely. The firm doesn't do work for people accused of fraud, rather the hig financial institutions which are the victims of fraod."

John Willcock

policy over the next few months does have a global significance. It looks as though the dollar may have reached a turning point. Having climbed steadily since the spring of 1995, it seems to have turned down. If that is right, the pace at which the Fed increases interest rates will have Interest Rates Foreign Exchange Rates **Bond Yields**



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on +44 171-825-8430 or email: leeanne.gilliar@ft.com

GOOWGOOD

nant mer of

10.27

Woods wins after Swing problem

Tiger Woods, in his first tournament since his spectacular triumph at the Masters, won the Byron Nelson Classic by two strokes in Irving, Texas on Sun-

The 21-year-old struggled with his swing, but a two-underpar 68 was good enough to carry him to his fifth victory in 16 starts on the PGA Tour since he turned professional last August. "At the Masters I was hitting

the ball pretty good. Today I wasn't," said Woods, who finished at 17-under 263, equalling the tournament record low

American Lee Fellow Rinker, who led by two strokes after seven holes, shot 68 to finish second on 265, while Tom Watson (67), winner of eight major titles, tied for third with

Dan Forsman (70) on 267.

Woods, 21, collected
\$324,000 (£202,000) for his third PGA Tour win this year, moved to the top of the money list with \$1,290,350 and jumped to the top of the American Ryder Cup rankings.

2,10 Setfish

2.40 Captain Collins

He also took his career earn- ahead, birdied three of the first ings to \$2,080,944, passing the seven holes to open a two-\$2m barrier quicker than any-stroke lead, but he could not

But perhaps the most im-pressive thing about the win was But perhaps the most impressive thing about the win was that it was achieved with a who had five holes left, and it faulty swing, which is the sign of a great player.

"I hit some really good shots and some really bad shots." Woods said. "I had to rely on my mind and my short game to get me through and that's what happened. I got up and down woods was so concerned

about his swing after the third round that he summoned his coach, Butch Harmon, who jumped into his car for the fourhour drive from Houston. Harmon arrived early on

Sunday morning, and spent time with his star pupil on the range before the final round. The session did not work miracles, but it was enough to carry Woods to victory.

He started the final round

with a two-stroke lead, and made his lone bogey at the parfour third, where he sliced his drive into water. Rinker, playing two groups

was as good as over. Woods tees up again on Thursday at the Colonial tournament in nearby Fort Worth, where he also is expected to

hold it.

meet with Fuzzy Zoeller. At the Masters, Zoeller made comments about Woods that were perceived by many to be racially insulting.
Britain's Nick Paldo, who

had hit three sub-70 rounds,

ended with a disappointing 73

For a 276 total.

BYRON MELSON CLASSIC TOURNAMENT (Irving, Fisses) Leading final scorps (US unless stated): 263 T Woods 64 64 67 62; 265 L Rinker 65 63 69 68, 257 T Watson 65 68 69 37, 0 Forsman 67 64 66 70, 258 3 Fisses 66 69 37, 0 Forsman 67 64 66 70, 258 3 Fisses 66 69 68; 2 Penry 65 87 66 70; P Starkowski 64 66 68 70; B Byran 65 67 68 70; P Starkowski 64 66 68 70; B Byran 65 67 68 77 71, 269 J Cook 63 63 66 67; C Parry (Lus) 66 66 69 68; P Mickelson 68 67 68 68; E Johnson 65 69 68 70; P Mickelson 68 67 68 68; E Johnson 65 69 68 69; N Lancaster 70 68 64 69; P Blactyran 68 63 67 71; H Suston 68 65 67 70, 270 7 Kas 69 67 67 67 1; H Suston 68 65 67 70, 270 7 Kas 69 67 67 67 1; H Suston 68 64 68; O Browns 74 64 63 69; D Hart 64 63 69 69, P Flos (Zin) 69 65 67 70; D Bergano 68 63 68 73, Selected: 276 N Fallor (SS) 69 68 67 73, Selected: 276 N Fallor (SS) 69 66 69 73, Selected: 276 N Fallor (SS) 69 66 69 73, Selected: 276 N Fallor (SS) 69 66 69 73, Selected: 276 N Fallor (SS) 69 66 67 52, 281, Hidde (Mass (Japan) 68 70 67 76. for a 276 total.



Johnson's play-off pay-off

Laura Davies, the defending champion, failed in her attempt for a third victory in the LPGA Championship at Wilmington. Delaware, although a finalround 68 moved her into joint fourth three shots behind. First place went to the American Chris Johnson, who had a par on the second play-off hole against her countrywoman Leta Lindley to take the title.

Johnson had bogeys on the 18th hole twice, once in regulation to force the play-off and once to keep the play-off going. Lindley, however, struggled on the second sudden-death hole, the 10th, after sending her tee shot into the trees on the right of the fairway.

Lindley, seeking her first ca-

reer win, missed a 30 foot putt for par hefore the 39-year-old Johnson rolled in a six-footer for her eighth career victory and the first since 1995. The first prize moved Johnson into the top five in the 1997 money list.

top five in the 1997 money list. LPSA CHAMPIONISHP (Naturalegion, belowwee) Leading finel scores (16 unless stated): 261.C Johnson 68 73 69 71 (Johnson won on the second july-off hole); L Lindley 72 69 69 71. 282 A Sorenstam (Swe) 70 73 72 67, 284 L Deaset (68) 67 75 74 68; S Steinhauer 68 71 73 72. 285 G Graham 69 79 71 68; O Coe-Jones (Can) 70 75 71.69; 286 T Johnson (68) 70 73 72 71; 267 K Webb 71 79 70 67; 8 Mucha 68 73 72 74; 288 K Robbers 73 74 74 67; P Gradey 70 76 78 87; 8 Burton 71 73 76 68; Il Dormann 70 73 75 70; J Dickinson 75 72 68 73.

RACING'S FUTURES MARKET

Horse (Trainer)	Coral Wi	Sam HIII	Ladbrokes	Tob
Reams Of Verse (H Cecil)	evens	4-5	aneve	even
Yashmak (H Cecif)	8-1	7-4*	5-1	4-:
Shyadah (Seeed bin Surgar)	10-1	10-1	10-1	14:
Crown Of Light (M Stoute)	14-1	14-1	14-1	10-1
Sarayir (W R Hem)	16-1	25-1	20-1	20-1
Strawberry Room (A P O'Brien/Iri)	25-1	16-1	16-1	16-1
Ebadiyia U Coo	25-1	20-1	12-1	
Each-way a quarter the odds, places .	1. 2. 3 (Enson			***

Derby S	takes (Lm 4f)		
Horse (Trainer)	Coral \	Million, Hill	Ladhrokes	Tota
Entrepreneur (M Stoute)	evens	evens	4-5	11-10
Revoque (P Chapple-Hyam)	5-1	5-1	11.2	8-1
Silver Patriarch (I Duniop)	7-1	7-1	8-1	6-1
Benny The Dip (J Gosden)	8-1	8-1	7-1	8-1
Paleris (B Hantury)	16-1	16-1	15-1	16.
Cloudings (A Fabre)	33-1	33-1	25-1	33-1
Conon Falls (J Gosden)		39-1	33-1	33-1
Grepeshot II, Cumanii	25-1	38-1	25.1	33-1
Musalisal (B Hills)	38-1	33-1	33-1	33-1
Panama City (P Chappie-Hyam)	89-1	33-1	33-1	33-1
Romanov (P Chapple-Hyern)	25-1	33-1	33-1	25-1
Symonds Inn (J FitzGerald)	25 1	33-1	25-1	33-1

4.10 LAW COMMISSION (nap)

2.10 THEHEARNE & NORMAN MAIDEN STAKES (CLASS D) £7,000

added 3YO 1m Penalty Value £4,890 . SCAR WYADER RAGIOUM A MARGOUNG M STOUR 80.
WASSP RANGER RUSA) (25) (Christopher Winglin) P Cole 9 0...
LONE VENTURE (Or Frank 8 8 Chao) 5 Woods 8 8....

32 SELFISH (15) (BF) (1. Mannopoulos) H Cecil 8 9 - 4 decimed - 4 decimed - 8 DETENTION - 4 decimed - 9 DETENTION - 9 DESCRIPTION - 12-1 Love Venture 1996: Force Figin 3 9 0 / Red 3-1 for (Say Kellewyk dawn (12) 11 ren FORM SUIDE

Penalty Value £7,375

Indiscreet to make a bold show

Racing

GREG WOOD

There are plenty of good reasons to travel to Sussex for the first day of Goodwood's racing season, from the beauty of the surrounding countryside and the course's award-winning architecture to the strength and depth of competition, but anyone who turns up for today's Predominate Stakes expecting to see the next Derby winner is simply being greedy.

The older generation of punters still insists that the Pre-runners today seem to have acdominate is the last of the major Derby trials, but not since Troy in 1979 has a Goodwood winner followed up at Epsom, and while four of today's six runner's still hold an entry in the greatest Classic, all are available at

dominate winners are doomed to a career of under-achievement and - if they are lucky retirement to a stud somewhere in eastern Europe, Pentire, suc- the best of his generation, and cessful two years ago, went on to win the King George, while (3.40) deserves support today.

Minster Soo won the St Leger, When he broke the juvenile but the race could be dubbed the Setback Stakes, since many of its competitors have suffered an interrupted start to the Classic campaign, and to win at Epsom after a hurried preparation is little short of impossible.
It is a fact which at least two

of the trainers with fancied cepted, with Luca Cumani, who will saddle Grapeshot, apparently convinced that "nothing will beat Entrepreneur", while John Gosden, whose Conon Falls won a maiden at Chester's May meeting, admitted after

would be in Germany or Italy. There is, however, one other colt in the Predominate field who could prove to be among for that reason alone, Indiscreet

course record in the Coovivial Maiden Stakes at York - a race

RICHARD EDMONDSON NAP: Just Nick (Goodwood 2.40) NB: Tadeo (Beverley 5.00)

won previously by In The Groove, Owington and Danehill -on his course debut, Indiscreet guaranteed himself a prominent position in 2,000 Guineas betting through the winter.
The first Classic came too

quickly for him, however, and following a scrambled victory

HYPERION

GORNG: Good, STALLS: ireide. DRAW ADVANTAGE: Bigh for 5/ & 77 100pds.

laislastchance (2.25): Party Romance (4.25):

WINNERS IN THE LAST SEVEN DATS: None

340-2 LADY OF THE LAKE (29) J Dunits B 7.

BATH

2.15: 1. SPACE RACE (). Deticn) 13-2; 2. Twin Time 16-1: 3. Mr Peradien 13-2. 17 rgs. 3-1 tov Abeleny (9th). 1½, 1½, (C Cyar, Horstern). Tota: £7.90; £2.20, £4.20.

£2.60. Dual Forecast: £76.00. Computer Screening Forecast: £96.65. This: £81.20.

22.60. Dual Forecast: £16.00. Computer Streight Forecast: £58.65. Third: £51.20. 2.45: 1. VANBOROUGH LAD (R Phranch) 14-1; 2. Neserveb 14-1: 3. Castel Rosee-to 14-1; 4. Robit Lance B-1. 17 fan. 4-1 fav Ca'd cru. nk. 1. (M Botton, Shrewton). Tobas £10.30; £1.70, £5.20. £3.10. £3.50. DF. £376.10. CSP. £194.76. Theast: £2,650.27. Tax: £1.121.10. Non Runner; Richard House

3.15: 1. DBM OTS (T Spenke) 2-1 fev. 2. Coveraded 4-1; 3. The Rich Man 5-2, 6 ran. 5, hd, IS Peling, Countrigel, Total £2.80. £1.40. £2.50, DF: £8.30. CSF: £8.13.

NRs: Ballet Rambert, First Dence. 3.45: 1. CAUDA BOUMA (PP Murphy) 11.

4; 2. Mutassener 6.4 fev; 3. Silver Purse 9-1.4 ras. 24; hd. (M. Chernon, Upper Lan-tourn). Total £3.00. DF: £3.00. CSF: £8.55.

1.5.1. SOLO NO PRE Cisco) 1-6 Sec. 4.15.1. SOLO NO PRE Cisco) 1-6 Sec. 2. Fautuscic Flome 20-2; 3. Legendary Lover 33-1. 12 res. 5, 5, (8 Hills, Lambours). Tols: 8.1.0; £1.10; £1.80, £3.10, £7.51.0. CSF: £5.74, Noc. £13.70. Spoke; 12-1; 2. Sec. 2. Rever PLOT (1 Spoke) 12-1; 2. Rever PLOT (1 Spoke) 12-

2. Claief Monarch 7-4; 3. Natural Eight 11-10 fee. 10 ran. 7. 7. (R Charlton, Beck-Immpton). Totas £7.80; £1.80, £1.20,

£1.20. DF: £10.60. CSF: £31.52. Tho:

- 9 (octavel -RETINE 2-1 Hopetally, 3-1 Mine Buveled, 9-2 Advancies, 5-1 Royal Densen,

2.55 ROSE & CROWN HANDICAP (CLASS E) £4,100 added 3YO 1m 4f

OCOS DILAS BAY (2) M W Essenty 8 2 7 Linear 7 OCOS DAMY SUBMIT (22) 8 Hanking 8 0 1 Date Chann 14 OSOS MARSHMA (11) E India 7 11 Non Thilder 12 SOA ALAGNA (40) 9 C Williams 7 10 M Heavy (3) 8

erley earlier this month, fielde afternoon. ante-post punters have allowed him to drift out to 40-1 for the Derby. David Loder, his trainer, has not so much started the season in first gear as reverse, with just 28 runners and five winners, but Indiscreet at least now seems to have come to hand, and the son of St Jovite, the 1992 Irish Derby winner,

against exposed horses at Bev-

place in the stalls at Epsom. Horses with previous winning form over the rolling downland hills always deserve close inspection at Goodwood, and STAR TALENT (nap 4.10), revitalised by a close-season move to Ian Balding, is one to be on in the eight-furlong handicap.
The words "John Dunlop" af-

must be expected to secure a

ter a horse's name are also unusually eocouraging at this track, and his Zaima (next best 2.40) can beat some poorly handicapped rivals earlier in the

A puzzled silence still shronds the Newmarket headquarters of the Godolphin string, where tests continue in the hope of discovering why the irrepressible form of recent seasons has deserted their runners in 1997.

Bookmakers, though, have already decided that the Derby will come too soon for Happy Valentine, who was 8-1 favourite for the Classic just two months ago, and yesterday both William Hill and Coral removed him from their ante-post lists. In his place, the layers introduced Stowaway, winner of a maiden race at Newcastle last October, at 33-1. Even if he makes it to Eosom, his presence will carry the whiff of desperation, and it is hard to believe that the same odds or longer would

not be available on the day.

GOODWOOD

2.40: If sufficient rain arrives to turn the ground soft, Just Nick would have conditions in his favour, But the quality on view here is CAPTAIN COLLINS, a Newmarket winner five weels ago for Peter Chapple-Hyam who has said this colt is being aimed at Royal Ascot's Jersey Stakes.

3.10: Paul Cole's two-year-olds have shown considerable progress after their initial outings this sea-son and DILLGENCE should not be troubled to step up on his sec-ond to Only For Gold at muddy

3.40: GRAPESHOT's second to Descri Story in the Craven Stakes at Newmarket marks bim out as run only on fast ground, no bet would be the advice in the event of testing going. Indiscreet was highly rated last season but strug-gled to win a poor race last time and his stable is yet to strike form.

form and LAW COMMISSION can carry on the good work. He has top weight but is 21b lower in up to Akil on this track last August. Also in his favour is an ability rivals prefer a sound surface.

Goodwood 2.40 3-1 100-30 9-4 31 31 72 42 41 92 9-2 41 92 7-1 7-1 7-1 94 16-1 16-1 20-1 251 351 251 Fachway a fifth the outs, oboss 1, 2, 3 C - Cost, H - William Hill, L - Lautheries, T - Total

Good	wood	41	0_	_
Harso	C	_ <u>R</u>	Ļ_	_7
Gold Spale	100-30	31	7.2	41
Artepiezes	8-1	8-1	64.	64
King Of Tener	13-2	5-1	11-2	5-2
Star Telent	61	13-2	5-1	13-2
Copilano Princera	11/2	7-1	81	13-2
Sharp Shallle	8-1	9-1	104	7-1
Alpine History	7.1	91	81	12.1
Orany	15-1	124	11.1	11-1
Conspicuous	14-1	18-1	12-1	141
Laur Comprission	20-1	14-1	20-4	124
Volley	20-1	25-1	201	201

C - Cool, H - Willem Hill, E - Carboles, T - Total

33-1 or more this morning. that race that the only Derty his
This is not to say that all Pre-Diligenous ran at the same focuse when second to newcomer Only For Gold, The ground ween't as besong for him, but he's a son of Dilum so he would not went this surface to become too leading. Rom's Pet hung left in the Haydock mud when beston by newcomer Hoh GOODWOOD HYPERION Taxablet is an early load by Hensel and from a dam shall won over this top. He has the fends

	2.40 Captain Collins 4.10 Law Commission (nap) 3.10 Diligence 4.45 Top Banana .	3	1.40	WESTMINSTER TAXT INSURANCE PREDOMINATE STAKES (LISTED) (CLASS A) £30,000 added 3YO
	GOING: Good (penetrometer reading 3.1). STALLS: Stahon, course - mands side; round course - inside (except land - outside).			Im 2f Penalty Value 522,320 GRAPESTOT URA GRAPH Value 541,320 GRAPESTOT URA GRAPH Van Hale & M. Kert-Drivert L. Current 8 11 J. Reid 6 11
	DRAW ADVANTAGE: High from 71 to 100. Regul-hand course with charp bends and gradients. Recognize is north of Chichester between A285 and A285. Chichester railway states.	2	03-1 1314-5	CONON FILLS (CA) (D) (Shelin Muhammad) Gosden 8.8
1	tion (London Victoria) is 4.5 miles away. ADMISSION: Elchmond Enclosure £16, Gordon Enclosure £10 (over-5% 55), Public Enclosure £4. (accompanied under-17s free). CAR PARTS 52: (re-parting xagliable.	5	02-125	REPORTE STAC (USA) (33) (03) (0 Constant P Matrick 8 8 K Februs 4 11 SHE-TAKE (17) (C State R Alexans 6 8 A Chart 3 12

don Enclorare \$10 (over-8% 55), Public Enclosure \$4. (accompanied under-17s free).

CAR PARK: \$2; Ircc parking available.

I LEADING TEATHRES WITH RUNNEES: R Haumon — 34 withers from 320 runners gives a success ratio of 10.6% and a loss to a \$1 level stake of \$68.81; P Cole — 24 winners, 110 runners, \$1.9%, +\$5.67; M Scoute — 21 winners, 80 runners, 26.3%, +\$5.36.8; 3 Goode — 18 winners, 108 runners, 176%, +\$24.22.

ILEADING JOCKETS: T Quinn — 42 winners, 176%, +\$24.22.

ILEADING JOCKETS: T Quinn — 42 winners, 255 rides, 16.5%, \$21.66; Pac Eddery — 35 winners, 187 rides, 18.7%, \$3.26; L Dettori — 29 winners, 168 rides, 18.4%, \$1.62; J Reid — 29 winners, 214 rides, 18.6%, \$22.07.

RINNERED PIRST TIME: None. WINNERS IN THE LAST SEVEN DATE: None.

LONG-DISTANCE KUNNERS: Captiano Princess (4.10) has been sext 144 miles by D Hayda Jones from Elial lesi, Mid Glamorgon; Conspicanous (4.10) sent 134 miles by LG Coltrel from Datford, Devon. -6 declared BETIMG: 7-4 Grapostot, 5-2 Cours Falls, 4-1 indiscreet, 9-2 Shil-Tries, 9-1 Raming Stag, 18-1 Outbook Dan Michaeston 3 & 8 M J Kinamo 5-1 (S bin Surcor) chawn (4) 9 ran FORM GUEDE

FIRMS GUIDE

BRUPESHOT is the proven performer and would seem the logical bet on his Cravin Stakes second to Desert Story. He was sught at two when wenning the Somervale Temersal Stakes and this seep up to 10 furious looks made for him. Deald Loder had reservations about ladiscreat at Beastley after a bay-off and any amount of improvement our be expected from that needed outing. The form on paper is worthess leaf out to best Yarkensky), but Indiscreat looked a future star when landing the Convival Stakes at York on his only juverale start and Loder has used Severley as a stopping stone for his other decent performers in the past. Connon Pails hed an easy ride at Crasear a forthight ago when gaps coence for him. He also got first run on Solo Mio, and it will find it difficult to beat the other pair. Purther Outlook was trained last year by Michael Stouts and he will be a surprise winner after a poor showing at Sandown, while Remaining Stang and Sala-Take make fittle appeal even though they finished on the heels of Graceshot in the Crasen. Sha-Take subsequently institute sure in the Guineas.

4: 32 SELECTION (I large termination of read of sections) BETTIME: evens Settlink, 3-1 Star Invades, 9-2 Wass Ranger, 12-1 Love Venture 1990: Force Figlio 3 9 0 / Rend 3-1 for (Say Materian) dawn (12) 11 nm FORM EURDE It would be nisky to bank on Settlink nor knowing the capabilities of the two newcomers. In- deed, it may well be that one of them can beat his. STAR INVADER is from the being-in- torm Michael Stoute yard and a son of Nashwan out of the Molecomb winner Sehtora Star also trained by Stoute, Settish looked home and hosed at Kempton a fortnight ago only for last Relatice to swoop for a lead-duch win. The rest were well seen off and Settish had straped nicely on her debut at Newbury when third to Kool Kate Katie. Weet Ranger may find even this too tough after a poor showing at Newmarket on his reoppeasance, but Love Venture this too tough after a poor showing at Newmarket on his reoppeasance, but Love Venture could be anything being from the yeard that won a maiden with subsequent Guineas number Green Card.	4.10 ANNE FRANCES STEVENS MEMORIAL HANDICAP (CLASS C) £10,000 Im Penalty Value £7,375 1 1250 6 LW consission (5) 67 tooth 0 theory 7 10 0. Tooling 5 27 23 115 SMR TUENT (USQ (16) PC (0) 97 8 McTracker) 1 Baiding 6 9 7 7 Codings 5 2000-3 GOLD SPATS (USQ (16) PC (0) 97 8 McTracker) 1 Baiding 6 9 7 7 Codings 5 2000-3 GOLD SPATS (USQ) (USQ (2) PC (0) 97 8 McTracker) 1 Plant 7 4 100 CONSTRUCTOR (22) PC (0) Plant 1 Plant 7 100 For 100 Plant 1
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1 declared 2.40 CHICHESTER FESTIVAL THEATRE HANDICAP BBC1 Penality Value £7,375

1 23-1 CAPTAIN COLLINS (33) R E Sarighan P Crapple-Hyam 9 7 Red 1 92
2 165-30 RUDTS PET (14) (The Brackgas Partnershot) 9 Harmon 9 5 R Haghas 9 90
3 162-41 GREEN EWEL (15) (6) (T E Budwall R Harmon 9 1 Danie O'Real 3 8)
4 0-51 SROAD REVER (15) (6) O'Real R Harmon 8 13 Danie O'Real 3 8)
5 22-1 ASSIME (16) (16) (17) (Mallor J Partnershot) J Hills 8 11 Danie 0 8 13 Deliand 8 97
5 22-1 ASSIME (16) (16) (17) (Mallor J Partnershot) J Hills 8 11 Danie 0 8 14 13 Danie 0 8 14 15 Danie 0 8 15 D

ian Bathing has STAR TAILENT in good heart after deliming him out of Gey Kellewey's yell lest mornth. He impressed with his turn of four to best Give Me A Ring of Sandown immediately efferwants and that form was given a boost by Chris Thomson's charge at York best week, Bathing then shreed Star Talent for the Jubilee States at Kempton, but a low draw on that course at a gibt desclarating and the gelding never really girk into the case after a slow eart from the dreeded one stall. She Talent also fished to get a clear pessage in the straight so his three-length defect in shift to Autumn Cover wesn't that bed, Sold Spatis had his first run of the season in the Jubilee and was a highly creditable third truthsequent winner Welton Anserel fourth. Being the younger horse, he can be excepted to show the greater improvement and Muchael Stoutes arread him at but not bandcase after his maken win lest season. Gold Spatis has a fine chance in this weaker gade, but Star Talent could just reverse the form with the 2th pull. Artenorates is a really truth Anseria galding who lought beach the a tiger against Paser of Annour at Folketone. He then can a covier at 33-1 when fourth to Tregamon in the Victoria Cup — whining the race on the stands side – so he must gase a timest now he's up in distance. Ben Herbury has king heid a high opinion of Alphae Heldenway, but he wee forced to gold the son of Tird after numerous desaporating its. Hambury gave thin a spin over six fundings on his respectance at Donastar (that to Bring, Stamp Startile gets the weight and is in first form. Also, 10 fundings at Epsom less time when he finished side had now the less thought and the America side to the one it is greated when he finished side to Major Change may have been too far for him. Capitimo Princesse had seen he had not less than to first syrain gots him to produce a first him to Broughton Turnell at Assot — his first run of the season. Law Comprission can win with a big weight and promise season. Law Comprission can win with a big weight and wing has STAR TALENT in good heart after claiming him out of Gay Kelleway's ver

4.45 EQUITY FINANCIAL COLLECTIONS STAKES (CLASS C)

		TIONS SCHOOL OF LOWER LAND - NAME	
-	46446	terminance from its 85 Sept. of late Paristed Belong 6 10 Q.	1 Dettod :
1	117,111	Delivery of the state of the st	D Commenters (C)
7	172-11	MONASSE (36) (E) Makeum Al Makeum) E Durkey 6 10 0	To A Delivered follo
•		CHOWNED AVERUE (21) (C) (T W Welland P Verin 592	S Sandari
3	2000-5	Commented by the bound of the control of the control	
4	1020-5	EMERGLADES (15) (D) Gás 6 Lussial & Clariton 9 9 7.	
-	2454 -	Company Hall Sty Sty Company Sty 997	Microsa Without (7)
5	1502.0	TOP BURNER (17) (3) (H Cardy) H Cardy 892	
•		- p decares - ·	
		Manager 9.4 Created Server, 5-1 President, 11-7 Investor	ee. 7-1 Too Barrier
		Azamanan D.A. (2000) AND MARKED DAL EXPERIENCE AND ADDRESS.	CO. 1 TO DESCRIPTION

BETTING: 2-1 Montainable, 9-4 Crossted Avenue, 5-1 Everglades, 11-1 Injuntance, 7-1 Top Bastesia 1998: Loch Patrick 6 9 5 i Red 11-4 for (iii Mindgeld) drawn (7) 7 cm 1998: Loch Patrick 6 9 5 i Red 11-4 for (iii Mindgeld) drawn (7) 7 cm 1998: Some ram is forecast which is bed news for Montainable, who is at his very best on the fest. Jayannapee has a big verglar on the first run of the season; Everglades wants beyon for Jayannapee has an apprentice school. That leaves CROWDED AVENUE holdings, and Top Beause has an apprentice school. The there weeks ago when a pleasing fifth to Aware. Crowded Avenue Biss a downlist course winner who has also won redoc at Epsom and this bearer gound could sust him nowadays. Montainable is an univount on this type of ground, but Ed Duniop rates him a fast-ground specialist. Jayannape is without recent action and all his wins have been on fact ground, she glading breaking the course fector when heating Easy Dollar in the Hadawood Stokes at Newbory last July when Top Berana when heating Easy Dollar in the Hadawood Stokes at Newbory last July when Top Berana 112th better today) was in the ruck after finishing behind Jayannapes at York.

Selection: CROWDED AVENUE

Night. 5.45: 1. NIGHT HÄRMONY IX Fellon) 10-1; 2. Runs in The Family 4-1 fev. 3. Flying Harold 3-1; 4. Will To Win 8-1, 13 ren. 1/4.

2.25 Royal Dream 2.55 Sam Peeb 3.25 Jack The Lad 3.55 Step N Go 4.25 Shawm 5.00 Tadeo DEAM ALVANTAGER High for 5t & TT 100pds.

If Right-hand, galioping course with very stiff 5t.

Course is In W of town on A1035. Bus service from Beverley station (Holl - Scarborough line) 2m. ADMISSION: Club E12; Junior Chib (16 to 21-year-olds) ER; Tanassalis 58; Silver Ring E3 (OAP E2); Course Enclosure E2; Picnie area E2 or 52 per car, plus 52 per occupant. CAR PARE: Free parking synthesis.

BLINGERED FIRST TIMES Adventite (vivored), Toll's Times, Valuanciance (2.25): Parter Renormed (4.55).

3.25 DAVID SWANNELL MEMORIAL RATED HYCAP (CLASS C) £7.500 added 1m 100yds

3.55 H & P FREIGHTWAYS HANDICAP (CLASS D) £5,000 added 3YO filles 1m 2f CONGLOISTANCE BUNNERS: Lody Of The Lake (2.55) & Pen-lary Girl (3.66) have been sent 245 miles by J Dandop from Arm-icl, West States.

_		T STATE MADE DISLIBURITH MADE THAT IN MINISTRE 2 1 1 MARINE
13	25 TIGER INN SELLING STAKES (CLASS F) £3,300 added 270 51	2 D15-31 CAN CAN LADY (15) M Johnston 9 6 July J Wenner 3 34-2 SADDLERS' HOPE (15) J Fargrave 9 1 7 Spratu
14	£3.300 added 2V0 5f	4 653-00 EPONINE (6) M Chennon 8.9
_		5 00-5 FANTASY CERL (21) J Dunlop 8 7
1	35 ADREMALIK (L/9 (BF) Mas J Remadon 9 11	6 604-21 STEP N 60 (1/9 (D) Mrs.) Ramsder 86
2	O COLLAGAR (S4) D STEW 811	7 D4-54 FRUNK (12) N Graham 8.4
3	000 TOTALS TIMES (5) M W Easts by 9 11	9 650-00 NATIVE PRINCESS (50) 8 H/b 7 11
4	D VALSLASTCHANCE (60) N Triver 6 11	~ 9 declared ~
5	DO HAMERRA MA M Meade 6 6F Norton 1	BETTENE: 3-1 Step N Go., 4-1 Can Can Lady, Suddiers' Hope, Fantany &
ě	422 HOPEFULLY (27) (8P) M Chernon 6 8	5-1 Facus, 12-1 What Happened Was, Mathe Princess, 25-1 Eponior
7	CO - MISS BEVELED CLO M Brown 69 6 Daffeed 9	2-T LECON 15-T store trashener men' name Lincols' 50-7 Change
ġ.	5 ROYAL DREAM (L2) J Borry 86 P Pageoy (5) 4	
ă-	STEP IN TO THE SUN 9 Febry 89 J Carnel 3	WINDWILL INN MAIDEN STAKES (CLAS
•	- 9 declared -	4.25 WINDMILL INN MAIDEN STAKES (CLAS
BETT	RM2-2-1 Hopetally, 3-1 Miles Bureled, 9-2 Advances, 5-1 Royal Desert,	
DEL N	Mark S. of Marketings. S. D. Service Control S. S. S. Service and S. C. S. Service and S.	1 ARASO DET THE POINT (14) R Hollashood 80

D) £4,900 added 3YO 7f 100yds
GET THE PORT (LA) R Hollmehead 80
PARTY ROMANCE (USA) (14) 8 Humbury 90
ROUND ROBEN (15) C Thornton 9 DDown McKeouse
SHAWAM (42) (95) O Loder 9 0
VAN CHINO (CT) 8 McMahon 9 D
BINDADWICY MELDRY A Janes 8 9
RAAKA (227) R Armstrong 8 9 8 Carter 2
WOODBECK (21) 1 Glover 88
- 8 declared -
8 Sharom, 7-2 Party Romance, 13-2 Round Robin, Rushin
k, 12-1 Van Chino, 25-1 Get The Point, 83-1 Broadway Majori

5.00 ANGEL STAKES (CLASS C) £7,325 added

Hindram: Ts. 10th, True handisap resigne: Algene 7st 8th, Sam Peeb 7st 10. BETTINE: 4-1 Ledy Of The Luke, 9-2 Lagram Bay, 11-2 Lindrick Ledy, 8-1 Sam Peek, 13-2 As-is, 8-1 Shelton Sovereign, 10-1 Alagna, 12-1 others

RACING RESULTS *h. (Mass S Witton, Stoke-on-Trent). Toke: £10,90; £2,50, £1,20, £1,80, £2,60, DP: £28,50, CSP: £45,49, Treast £333,11, fro: £67,20, Non Runner: Bothy. Jackpot: £25,381,30. today). Piacopot: £39.20. Quadpot: £11.00.

Piecepot: £32.80. Quadpot: £5.10. SOUTHWELL 2.30: 1. ALWAYS LUCKY (P Fessey) 100-

30; 2. Pilcium 6-1; 3. Captain Brady 13-2. 11 ran. 2-1 far Monopoly (5th). 1¼, 6. U Berry, Codestham), Totac £3,55; £1.20, £1.50; £2.30, Dual Forecast; £15,60, CSF; £22.23, Trio: £33.30. Non Runner: Shamwan

Song.
3.00: 1. ROYAL LEGEND (M Wagnern) 5-1; 2. Zetopek 8-1; 3. Evezio Rufe 5-1. 10 ran. 9-2 fev Strutiecook (Sin), 3%, 2%, U Pearce, Newmanden), Votes £7.10; £2.50, £2.50, £1.50, DF: £51.80, CSF: £42.58. Troc 280.30. 1. KALAMATA (N Day) 7-4; 2. El-terby Park 11-8 for, 3. Caben Nights 11-2. 8 ren. 19, 3. U Glover, Worksop). Total 53.30; £1.10, £1.60. DF; £1.90. CSF;

ter, 2. Sett Cottage 12-1; 3. Nid Ory 10-1; 4. Borst A Ludy 14-1, 18 man. 2, hd, (S Sowing, Mansdeld), Tota: £5.50; £2.40, £3.50, £1.90, £2.90, DF: £41.00, CSF. £35.39. Treast: £219.81. Troi: £116.00. 4.30; 1. ELENSROOK (P Fessey) 4-5 fev. 2. Medina Miss 9-4; 3. Karemaragon 33-

S.SO.AR: BONANZA PASK.
S.15: 1. STAR PRECISION (S Drowne) 15-1 9 ran. 7, 6. (J Berry, Cockerhem). Total £1.40; £1.00, £2.10. DF: £1.80. CSF 8 fer; 2. Racayel 3-1; 3. Night Manage 5-2; 7 ram. 6, 2: 16 Bailling, Pylietth, Total: £3,40; £1,40, £2,20. DF: £4,90. CSF: £5,60. Titolog: £11,22. Non Runner: Premier-£3.20. The wiriner was bought in for 4,600 BLOOS 1, NORMANIE THE JOKER (C Teague)
5-1; 2. Mounte Cave 9-1; 3. Berstico 14-1;
5-1; 4.4 18 pers, 4-1 tev David

James' Git. 19, shr.hd. U Leigh, Gansborough). Tothe: £9.10; £2.90, £1.80, £3.20, £3.70. Dual Forecast: £27.40. CSF: £50.82. Tino

ast: £589.96. The: £276.20 (pert won, pool of £202.36 carried forward to Goodwood 4.10

MUSSELBURGH 6.30: 1. SANDSIDE (6 Cares) 10-11. fev, 2. Oriel Girl 6-1; 3. Crafty Pet 8-1. 5 ran. y., 3. (1 Berry). Tota: £1.90; £1.10, £3.00. DF: £4.30. CSF: £5.69. 7.00: 1. THE BUTTERWICK KID (R WIN-

ston) 2-1 fev; 2. Katheye's Pet 6-1; 3. Am-bidentrous 9-1 11 ran. 2, 1%. (R Fahay). Tota: £3.20; £1.30, £2.10, £2.70. Dual For-cast: £5.20. CSP: £11.99. Tricast: £81.78.

WINDSOR

8.15: 1. FINSBURY FLYER (R Phench) 7-1; 2. Caudillo 12-1; 3. Philister 4-1, 17 rnn. 7-2 tav Cape Pigeon, 14, 174. (R Hodgest, Totat 59,70; 52.40, £3.20, £2.40, DP: £32.90. CSF: £80.89: 7ng: £46.10. Non Runner: Set

6.45: 1. CARROWKEEL (M Hals) 9-4 tox: 2. Mited 5-2; 3. AF2 Fella 11-2, 11 ram, 27-, 4. (B Hills), Tota: £4.20; £1.70, £1.70, £1.60, DF: £4.40, CSF: £7.59, Tric: £7.90, After 8 9wards' inqury, the result stood. 7.15; 1. BRAMBLE BEAR () Quinn) 16-

1: 2. Chill Concerts 8-1: 3. Lam 1; 2. Chill Concerto 8-2; 3. Lamanta 9-1. 11, ran. 4-1 fev Mangus. 1½, sht-hd. M Blan-shenti, Tota: £28.10. CSF: £125.20. The-BET: £1,143.93. THO: £358.30.

Clive Brittain's Air Express, ridden by Brett Doyle, completed a Classic double when stamping his authority on the German 2,000 Guineas in Cologne yesterday. Last month's Italian 2,000 Guineas winner was al-

ways travelling well in the Group Two Mehl-Mulhens-Rennen over a mile, before taking it up over a furlong out. Air Express, who paid a generous 5.5-1 on the Tote, wasted no time in as-serting his superiority and ran on well to beat local hope is Tirol by just over a length. Criquette Head's Fine Fel-low was a further half-length back in third, with John Dunlop's Groom's Gordon only 11th of 13 under Kevin Darley. Brittain took a gamble in supplementing Air Express for the race but it paid off handsomely and Roval Ascot could be the next stop for



don't read HIVE YOU ! Y OF RAC west

A

1996: Ying Of Peru 3 9 7 Pot Eddery 14-1 (A Jen's) drawn (10) 12 ran FORM GIBDE

Capitain Collina: is the tucky one to assess after landing a weak maiden over six furlongs at Newmarker. He could hardly have been called impressive and whether he ever really use at Newmarker. He could hardly have been called impressive and whether he ever really use at Newmarker. The tunes on good ground over this trip and the third, Josef Mick, had not well premarker. That was on good ground over this trip and the third, Josef Mick, had not well premarker. That was no good ground over this trip and the third, Josef Mick, had not well premarker. That was no good ground over this trip and the third, Josef Mick, had not well premarker when second to Tsyster of Josef and the third force sould be some to the chance of a follow up. Just Nick had the Chiers cooked at York until Tayseer pounced, so he's going to be being there again with the third sould see that the product of the product of the ground gets softer. Broad River's the mount of 31b pull with Green Jewell especially if the ground gets softer, Broad River's the mount of 31b pull with Green Jewell especially if the ground gets softer, Broad River's the mount of 31b pull with Green Jewell especially if the ground gets softer, Broad River's the mount of 31b pull with Green Jewell as little, but he could just be a nicety handlospped colt on this marker tithm to Shawel. Also, his only juveriles start was at York from by Tycon Toddi in a marker tithm to Shawel. Also, his only juveriles start was at York from by Tycon Toddi in a marker tithm to Shawel. Also, his only juveriles start was at York from by Tycon Toddi in a marker tithm to Shawel. Also, his only juveriles stard was at York from by Tycon Toddi in a marker tithm to Shawel. Also, his only juveriles stard was at York from by Tycon Toddi in a marker tithm to Shawel. Also, his only juveriles stard was at York from by Tycon Toddi in a marker tithm to Shawel. Also, his only juveriles stard was a York from by Tycon Toddi in a ma 3.10 SOUTHERNPRINT MAIDEN STAKES (CLASS D) E7,000 added 2YO 5f Penalty Value £4,890 LAST RINGHT (AL) (M H PORSODY) M CENTRO 9 0

PURE CONCODENCE Mas Array Marries 6 Lews 9 0

ROOMS AFT FOR MICH PROSECT AND STORY MARRIES 1 LEWS 9 0 DELIGENCE (13) (BP) (Ascent) P Cate 9 0 R Haghes 5 65 223 FON'S PET (3) (87) (George E & Teol R Haston 9 0 223 ROWS PET (3) BRY GROUP = A TOU M PROPOST IN U.S.
SHEDWARD (The Propositional Corporation Display 9 0...
3 BE NY WISH (12) IT Train Gay Mellerby 89
TABLLEF RISA) Pharman A Martinith W9 Hern 89
- 7 destands - 7 destands - 7 destands - 7

THE TIME: 5-2 DELEGROOR, 7-2 Shegardi, 4-1 Be sky Wish, 5-1 Tanini, 6-1 Roots Pet, 11-1 Pers Co-Indidence, 20-1 Last Knight 1998: Deedy Jude: 200 M J Kname 1-1 (R Harmoni drawn b) 4 rat:

1998: Deed; Curry 2 0 0 M J Moure 7-1 IR remain draw (1) 2 ns:

FORM GUIDE

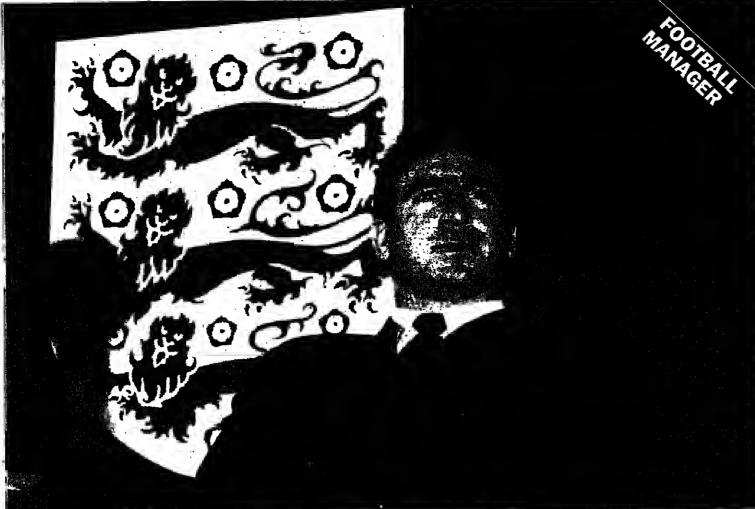
Powel Loder manduces the costly 200,000 prs Pratto Dominie cost Sheggardi, whose data use is the further 8 within a France. A hast further to decent performer Trus Livers, Sheggardi, but Sheggardi, but Sheggardi, but Sheggardi, but Sheggardi, but sheggardi a lot from racing amount Chester's bends, it could be that she dath's entry the expensions on that temping ground, but she suil shaped like a note sort in third to Bodfandishnoton.

What next for Eric? Ten possible new professions for the abdicating King of Old Trailed Guy Hodgson investigates.



Credentials: Astounding, Arthur Rimbaud, the poet he hugely admires, hung up his pen at an early age with the words "I'm not into that any mora" Which, give or take a little, was what Cantona said in his retirement statement. "I always planned to retire at the top." Rimbaud toured Affica; Eric may yet do so with an All Stars XI.

Prospects: Not promising. Modern poets are an acquired taste, hut Cantona's words are not so world may hang on to every syllable, but then it as qualified, as he could be, given the rider that



much difficult as incomprahensible. The football .French caps... Need I go on? The man is about

Credentials: Five Premierships, two doubles, 21. Prospects: Has expressed an interest in coach-1,000th question on Ryan Giggs's hamstring might

Ing and his work with the youngsters at Old Traf- pall after a while. Management is a possibility, ford has been exemplary, but whether he would but more likely in charge of a theatre or acting



Credentials: Is Naomi Campbell good on the catwalk? Has posed for Manchester United, medelled for Paco Rabanne and made the up-turned collar, which was last paraded successfully by New

him if he became a clothes horse. The man sells things faster than his dummies and Old Trafford will be the poorer, literally, for not selling umpteen. million No 7s next season.



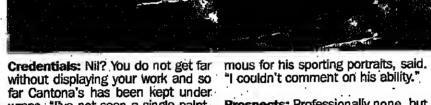
Credentials: See management. The most prolific winner of prizes in England, he would walk into any team in the Premiership that did not have Juninho in it. Which might be a clue to his leaving Old Trafford.

Prospects: Has retired twice before and on each occasion missed the roar or the crowa. On those occasions, nowever, his decision was made in haste, whereas this one seems knocked out of the European Cup Nevertheless, it is not beyond the bounds of credibility to see headlines next autumn proclaiming: "The King Is back".



Credentials: None, but, to ask a philosophical question, who has? Any man who can write "An artist, in my eyes, is anyone who can lighten up a room" has a chance of being described as a philosopher. Or pretentious.

Prospects: Outstanding. Cantona at least brought the subject into the public arena and has even been paid to issue his profundities (sic) in television adverts. If the world listens when you issue such waffle as "When the seagults follow the trawler....", then anything is possible.



wraps. "Tve not seen a single painting," Harold Riley, the Salford artist faas an amateur, possibly essential.

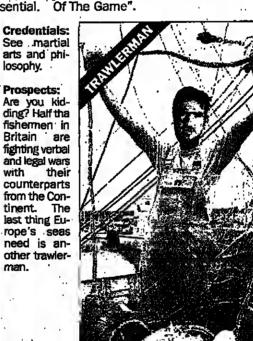
Prospects: Professionally none, but ject, as in Michael Browne's "The Art of The Game".

ble. For four years Manchester and beyond has spoken of a French king, bemusing Paris, which thought it had last got rid of the breed in 1848. If you want your monarch to come ready equipped with hauteur, however, then Cantona is your man. One might quibble about his past behaviour but largess has never stopped the Duchess of York.

Prospects: Poor, If you cannot command a place in the French national team, what chance of commanding a country. One plus is his ability to lose his head; his compatriots appreciate that in their



losophy. Prospects: Are you kid-ding? Half tha fishermen in Britain are fighting verbal and legal wars with their counterparts from the Continent. The last thing Eu-



"Painting is a very singular activity, Riley said, "and in him I think it was

a release." More likely to be a sub-



Credentials: When did he stop? From the moment he swag-gered on to an English football field with Leeds United he has put on a performance. Apart from that his straight roles include Nike adverts, and the film "Le Bonheur Est Dans Le Pré", which the Manchester Evening News described as a "delightful French comedy"....

Prospects: "He would no more expect to fill a leading role than expect Kenneth Branagh to play centre-forward for Manchester United," Terence Blacker, joint author of "The Meaning of Cantona", sald. There again, they said Ken would never play Henry V on film.



Credentials: Again, impressive. No single action gave kung fu more of a profile than Cantona's over-literal adherence to the Let's Kick Out Racism campaign at Crystal Palace. On the basis of any publicity being good publicity...

Prospects: Nil. The British Council of Chinese Martial Arts found the Selhurst Park incident disgraceful and that was just his technique. "No style, no balance, no authority" as Alan Hansen might have said. The idea is to Immobilise your opponent, not risk breaking your back on an advertising hoard-

'You're a long time finished,' Taylor tells Cantona Gullit wants to hang on to Vialli

CHRIS MAUME

Senior foothall figures were queuing up yesterday to urge Eric Cantona to think long and hard about his decision to retire. "I am very shocked," Gordon

Taylor, chief executive of the Professional Footballers' Associa-Uon, said. "In football you are a long time finished. Eric is only 30



and I feel he still has three or four years left in the game. I hope he would reconsider his position.

"He is a very strong character and tends to act on the spur of the moment, on impulse, and perhaps he may have done so again. Football will be the loser if he has made his final decision. "He has certainly brought colour to the game as well as

some controversy. But that

should not over-shadow his chievements in this country." Ruud Gullit, the manager of FA Cup-winners Chelsea, believes the Frenchman might change his mind. "I think 31 is young to retire, but obviously you have to respect his decision," said Gullit, in Hong Kong with his learn for today's friendly against South China. "But maybe there is still a possibility he will withdraw his decision, so we will just have to wait till he comes out

himself and explains the reasons

why he wants to stop."

In France, the man who dis-covered Cantona and offered him his first professional contract in 1983, also refused to accept that his erstwhile protégé had ir-revocably called it a day.

"I'm not sure that he is quitting," Auxerre's coach, Guy Roux, said. "Big stars bid farewell more than once. It's one of his first goodbyes. I'm sure there will be encores. I will wait for his departure to be confirmed, as I'm used to surprises with Cantona."

Alex Ferguson was looking ahead yesterday, saying he wanted to sign up to three new play-ers. Speaking on a visit to Belfast, he said: "We had plans before Eric made his announcement and we will continue with those plans. We are going to try and add a couple of players, maybe even three now, to our squad."

John Moncur has had more than one brush with Eric Can-

tona, but now finds himself with

a desirable souvenir.

The West Ham midfielder, whose stamping by the French-man three years ago led to Cantona's first red card in England three years ago, persuaded Can-tona to part with his shirt at the end of last Sunday's game at Manchester United, and Sothe-by's say the shirt would generate

There would certainly be a hig demand for it if the shirt came up for sale," a spokesman for the auction house said. Moncur may be the owner of Cantona's last shirt in competi-

plenty of interest.

tive football, but the Frenchman presented ex-Coventry defender David Busst with a memento of his own last week. Cantona ended his career by scoring twice in the former Coventry defender's testimoni-

United 13 months ago.

al on Friday. He then signed his shirt and handed it to Busst, who was forced to retire, after being badly injured in a match against

When Cantona told Ferguson that he was retiring, he said he still wanted to play at Highfield Road. "The fact that he was de-Ruud Gullit, the Chelsea man-

ager, yesterday told his Italian striker Gianluca Vialli he was termined to turn out in David's testimonial, knowing he was retiring, does him immense credstill wanted at Stamford Bridge. Busst's agent, Murdo Gullit, who has taken his FA Mackay, said. Cup winners to Hong Kong to give the players the chance to "chill out". said the former Ju-"He is a lovely man and he took the game scriously. It wasn't a walk in the park by any means.

ventus player could yet make his mark at the club. "Nobody at David was very moved that he this club has to leave. We want signed his shirt and handed it to him. He was extremely support-ive in the months that followed everybody to stay, that counts for Vialli and everyone, and everybody at this club has a fair David's injury and was one of a number of United players, who chance," Gullit said. The Chelsea team, who suf-

"Eric came up to me after the fered in the heat and humidity match and thanked me person-ally for arranging the testimoni-al. I'll be writing to him just to of Wembley on Saturday, wil have worse to contend with in Hong Kong where they play an exhibition today against the lo-cal champions, South China. let him know how much we appreciated what he has done for David - and football in general." Thunderstorms have been rumhling and humidity was up to 93 Mackay now plans to market per cent.

Blackhurn Rovers to take the goalkeeper Shay Given to New-castle United. Dalglish wants to sign the Republic of Ireland prospect now and avoid a price war with his former employer Jack Walker. Newcastle are also ready to throw in a further £500,000 in

instalments, hased on appearances, in the hope of pushing the deal through quickly. Dalglish wants to sign Given this week as he adds to his squad

Kenny Dalglish has made a £1.5m offer to his old cluh

for next season with deals for Dane Jon Dahl Thomasson and Georgian Temur Ketshaia also sealed. Rovers are resigned to losing

He is not willing to stay any longer as cover for Tim Flow-

Given at the end of his contract.

Relegated Nottingham For-est have put the Dutchman Bryan Roy and the Croatian 40,000.

Nikola Jerkan up for sale. The unsettled pair, both still under contract, have decided to leave the City Ground, after discussing their futures with new manager, Dave Bassett.

manager, Dave Bassett.
John Rudge, the Port Vale
manager, is having talks with the
Oldham captain, Craig Fleming. about a £250,000 transfer.

Caspian, the owners of Leeds United, have been chosen as preferred developers for a new multi-purpose arena integrated with a redeveloped West Stand at the cluh's Elland Road sta-

The Caspian development is for an arena seating 13,000 spec-tators that could stage pop and classical music concerts, family shows, conferences and exhibitions and sporting events such as ice hockey and hasketball.

The new West Stand will increase the capacity at Elland Road to 45,000 from the current

visited him in hospital.

videos of the game.

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BECAUSE DIRECT (OR DATE OF A DD SI

Lloyd lets *his bat do by schools the talking

Adam Szreter meets the Lancashire player whose fine form has won another chance to establish himself in the England cricket team

fortunes starts off with the first one-day international. Call it the ECB era, the Tesco era, the Graveney era, what you will, but it will still be England versus Australia.

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Over the weekend the youth-ful new selection panel, headed by David Graveney, sat down to perform their first meaningful work of the summer by picking the England squad for the three games. As last year, the shackles of convention have heen thrown off to a degree, with some imaginative choices. None more so than Graham Llovd.

Lloyd did not do himself justice when he played in two one-day internationals against Pakistan last season, hut started this year

suggests the se-

lectors are right

to give him another chance. Regarded by many as one of the best attacking batsmen in the country. at 27 Lloyd is at last finding some consistency.

It has been a long struggle to reak into Lancashire's star-studded batting line-up on a reg-ular hasis. With a father who happens to have played for Lancashire and England with considerable success, and who is now the England coach, it is perhaps understandable that Lloyd has taken his time to come into his own.

He toured Australia with England A in 1992-93, scoring two ceoturies, but the two seasons that followed were disappointing. Last summer, though,

n Thursday at Heading-ley the latest new era in England's internacional his first-class average was touch-ing 50 - not bad for a so-called nne-day specialist. "It was my first good season for quite a while, really, and it was much needed," he said.

A run of low scores in this season's Benson and Hedges Cup coincided with Lancashire relinquishing their grip on a trophy they have held for two years, but Lloyd has more than compensated for that. He started with a ferocinus assault on Yorkshire in the pre-season Roses friendly, scoring 225; he equalled Lancashire's Sunday League record of 134 against Durham, after a century against them in the Championship; and he hit 81 against Derbyshire in his

other Sunday

outing.
"It is cer-

tainly the best

start I have

made to a sea-

son", he said.
"I couldn't

have wished

for better, al-

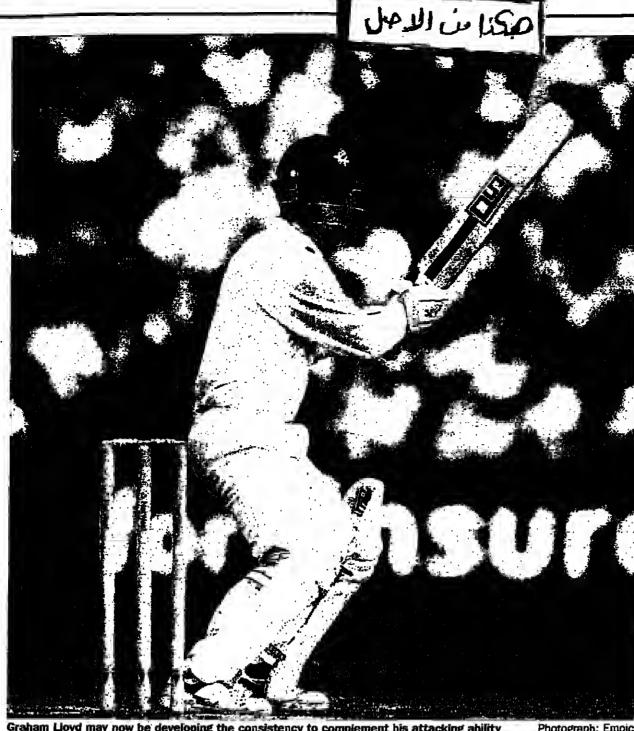
though I would

'It's nice to be labelled as a specialist at the way he has something rather than nothing'

> have traded a few runs in the friendly game for a few in the B&H." Born and bred in Accrington, Lloyd learnt his cricket at the

local club his father played for, having been sent to a noncricket playing secondary school. "That's not so unusual because not many comprehensive schools do actually play cricket", he said, "So it's up to all cricketers who go to those schools to go to local clubs to play there. We had two or three games at school, but it was nothing compared to the gram-mar schools."

Lloyd's commitment to his native county is almost as ahiding as his renowned penchant for the greyhonnds, but a chip



Graham Lloyd may now be developing the consistency to complement his attacking ability

off the old block he is not. Dad is so forthright that the English Cricket Board are to appoint a press officer to help journalists with their enquiries at future press conferences. Lloyd Jnr prefers to let his willow do the talking, but he is happy to explain how things go between father and son.

"They don't go much really, I don't see that much of him. I've only seen him once since he got back from his tour and we spoke on the phone just socially. We talk about other things and a bit of cricket, but I see him as the England coach and not my

"To me there's no problem at all, it's how other people per-

ceive it. Every now and then someone will say, 'You'll never atively poor start to the season. be as good as your Dad' or something, but it doesn't both-"He's fitted in really well with er me and I don't think it bothers him in the slightest. If it does come down to it, favouritism, that does annoy me and it probably annoys him as well,"

Despite what Lloyd says, it is hard to ignore the fact that his own form picked up last season, when his father was no longer coach at the club. Could it have been a sense of release? "That might be just a coincidence, there might be more in it, I don't know," he says. Lloyd is full of praise for his father's successor at Old Traf-

ford, the Australian Day What-

us at Lancs. We had a good two weeks over in South Africa getting to know him, and he lets the players play how they feel best to suit them. And in my case that's an attacking sort of game and he's quite happy with it." Does it mitate him to be labelled a one-day specialist? "It doesn't irritate me. It's nice to

be labelled as a specialist at something rather than nothing. My game is probably more suited to one-day cricket than the longer game so I don't mind it at all really. And goals for this season?

"To win a couple of trophies

more, despite the county's ret- with Lancs again, and it would be nice for the club to do well in the Championship. For me personally it would be to play every game for the county and take anything else that comes along.

Could he possibly mean a place in England's XI at Headingley on Thursday? "Maybe, I really have no idea. At the start of the season I wasn't even thinking about it. It wasn't even up for debate, but I've had a good start to the season so who knows? It was an enjoyable week last time I played for England and it would be nice to play again, but it's out of my hands is that so we'll have to see."

Setback for Henman

Tennis

Tim Henman, the British No 1 last night, vowed to return to the practice courts immediately folowing his second early exit from a tournament in successive

The world No 17 stumped 6-4, 6-3 to the Netherlands' Sjeng Schalkeo in the first round of the Raiffeisen Grand Prix in St Polten, Austria, less than a week after being beaten in the Italian Open second round by an Italian qualifier, Davide Scala.

"I think in the next five or six days it will be pretty important to put in some practice time," said Henman, who was the fourth seed in St Polten.

'I don't think I spent enough time on the practice court after my operation. That's some-thing I need to do after missing about six weeks of the tour. That's a lot of practice time. "Hopefully when I get to Paris, I will be able to spend a few hours each day trying to regain my confidence.

Henman has been seeded 15th for the French Open. where seedings are based on the ATP rankings, after Boris Beck-er and Todd Martin withdrew.

Henman rose one place in the

rankings issued yesterday because the Ukrainian Andrei Medvedev lost points after his first-round exit in Rome, slipping below Henman - from 17 to 20. Greg Rusedski, the British No 2, beaten 6-4, 6-4 by Thmas Nydahl of Sweden in the final qualifying round at St Polten yesterday, has dropped two

places to No 41 in the rankings. Rusedski should have been in the main draw, but failed to en-ter in time and had in play in the qualifying compectinn.

There were no official reasons for Becker's withdrawal from the French Open, but the 29-year-old's season has been hampered by a wrist injury which allowed him to play in only two tournaments in the past three months:

Goodway confirmed as Paris coach

Rugby League DAVE HADFIELD

Andy Goodway has been confirmed as the new coach of Paris St-Germain, who are one place from the foot of the European

Super League.
Goodway, dismissed by Oldham last month, turned down a chance to take charge last season, but has now accented the challenge of taking over from Pe-ter Mulholland, who was sacked two weeks ago.

"I realise I am taking on a club in a lowly position, but I am confident of turning things around for them," Goodway, who is oo a family holiday in Spain, said. "We have lost a number of games narrowly during the first half of the season." A board meeting in Paris on

Saturday - attended by the coopted directors from the Rugby League, Maurice Lindsay and Harry Jepson - decided to offer him his new job.

Goodway will return in time to watch his new side at home to London Broncos on Bank Holiday Monday. After that, he will take over a squad largely composed of Australians. His first problem could be the extended absence of one of them, as Paul Evans faces the disciplinary committee on Thursday after being sent off for a high tackle for the second time this season.

Wigan's shareholders will vote tonight on whether the club's chairman and vice-chairman, Jack Robinson and Tom Rathbone, should be sacked. The Shareholders' Action Group wants to vote the two men out of office and stop the sale of Central Park to a supermarket chain.

Officials are investigating an incident in Sunday's match at Halifax when the referee, Steve Ganson, was attacked by a fan who leaped over a fence and confronted Ganson after he had awarded a try to Wigan. The man was arrested and has been banned from Thrum Hall.

Hightown secure third place

Carried St. St. St. St. St.

Berliner came from behind to scoring for the Merseysiders, beat HGC 2-1 and win the womeo's European Cluh Championship yesterday, while England's Hightown finished third writes Bill Colwill from Wassenaar, Netherlands.

behind to overcome Glasgow Western 5-3 ma game which had the traditional frisson of any Anglo-Scottish contest. Glasgow's Sue MacDonald, who will play for Slough next season, opened the goal scoring spree in the ninth minute.

With the game evenly poised

As the Frenchman Olivier de

Kersauson smashed the world

record and tonk the Jules Verne

world yesterday, Ed Danby, one of the people who set the old record, radioed his con-

gratulations from mid-Atlantic,

Blake and Sir Robin Knox Juhn-

ston when they set a time of 74

days 22hr 17min 22sec in 1994 on

the 92ft catamaran Enza. De

Kersauson chopped that by three

Danby was with Sir Peter

writes Stuart Alexander.

Trophy for sailing round the him and his team."

at 2-2, Hightown's Lucy New-combe, who had opeoed the vestehuder from Hamhurg 4-3 in an exciting men's final. missed two chances but Yana Williams put them ahead five minutes into the second half.

MacDooald scored her second to level at 3-3 before Linda Carr, Hightown's general in Hightown twice came from defence, converted her second penalty stroke to put Hightown back into the lead. Michelle Liptrot, playing in place of the in-jured Maggie Soyave, cemented the game for Hightown with her first goal of the tournament.

HGC, the host club, ended a nine-year run of German vic-

Frenchman sets new world record

days 7hr 59min 14sec, but Dan-

by said: "All records are there to

be beaten and this one could not

have been taken by someone who

tried harder than Olivier. I salute

De Kersauson's new time of

achieved in the 99ft trimaran

Sport-Elec, but despite the huge

margin of gain, he said yester-day: "You couldn't say we had the record handed to us on a

plate. When the going got tough

For Danby, it also makes

tougher his job of training the

we didn't hold back."

71 days 14hr 18min 8sec was next month but plan their own

After the Dutch had rushed into a four-goal lead, thanks to a hat-trick from the Olympic striker, Bram Lomans, the Germans got their penalty corner drill going with Kai Holensteiner scoring at their 15th attempt. He went on to complete his hat-trick in a dramatic final 10 minutes with the Dutch reduced to 10 men by the temporary suspen-

new all-woman crew skippered

by Tracy Edwards who have tak-

en over his old boat and re-

named is Royal/SunAlliance.

They are on their way to New

York for an attempt on the

mulo-hull transatlantic record

tilt for the Jules Verne Trophy

er record to beat," Edwards said

yesterday, with Mike Jones of

Royal/SunAlliance adding: "We

"Now we have an even hard-

at the end of the year.

Mem by the temporary suspen-sion of Marc Delissen.

Nightown C Red: L Corr; M Monton, C Gilbert, K Welst: J Appin, F Lee, M Lipsto: L Newcombo, T Culfer, Cappil, Y Wildens.

Stangtow Westwere T Robb; L Sturrock J Butley, M Coutta (capt), 5 McKelver, H Welst-A, Morsels, I Loniver, G Cambron, 5 McDonald, W Fracer, Sob-stitutes used: A Denholm, G Sourar, E Robien, Unspirate M sen Gerner (Nobin, M Power (N)). tories when they beat Har**Tonkov takes** over lead

in the Giro

Pavel Tonkov threw down the challenge to those intent on preventing him from winning the Giro d'Italia for the second successive year with a dominant performance in the individual time trial that formed yester-

day's third stage.

The Russian completed the mostly uphill, 18-kilometre (11.2-mile) dash from Santarcangelo to San Marino in 31min 42sec. His compatriot Eugeni Berzin, the 1994 Giro winner and a time-trial specialist, was second fastest, 21 seconds back.

That set up what is likely to be an ongoing duel throughout the 22-stage event, with Berzin just one second behind Tonkov in the overall standings.

"If I'd known I was just one second behind, I would have worked harder at the end," Berzin said.

Tonkov, who tuned up for his defence by winning the Tour de Romandie earlier this month, said: "I hoped to get a result like this today. It's important looking ahead to rest of the Giro." Italy's Roberto Petito was have every confidence that Tra-cy and her team will rise to the hind Tonkov, and is third over-

Australian rules

SPORTING DIGEST

AMERICAN LEAGUE: Cleveland & Toronto 6; De-tron 6 Kansas City 5; Monresons 7 Sesson 5; Tesas 4 New York Yarkees 2; Archem 5 Milwaykee 4; Choago White Sox 10 Calkand 4; Belamore 8 Sesitio 7. Seattle 7.

MATIONAL LEAGUE: Montreat 7 Los Angeles 4;

Philadelpha 5 Houston 3; Florida & Pritanugh 3
(10) invingst; New York 10 Colorado 4; Colorinat
S San Diego C; Cheago Cubs S San Planelsco 3;

Atlenta S St Lous 1.

Basketball

Mark Malone, the Utah Jazz power for-ward edged Michael Jordan, the Chlca-go Bulls star guard, for the NBA's Most Valuable Player Award on Sunday. The Miami Heat came back from 3-1 down in the series to beat the New York Knicks 101-90 on Sunday to advance to the Eastern Conference finals. The defending champions, Chicago Bulls, will host the Heat tonight for the conference

Cricket WITHINGS CUP (Third day of four): Charlestown, Newles Guyana 25T and 160-4 (Z. Hannif 72, A. Hannif 62n; Leevande Ishenda 221 Rr Powell SJ, Mingatana Frinded and Totago 180 and 245 (D. Williams 55); Jamaica 226 and 99-4 (R. Samuels 55).

Cycling
GRO D'TINUA (San Marino) Tibrd stagle: 1 P
Toricu (Rui) Mace 35mm 42sec; 2 YBecn (Rus)
Book 4-2sec; 3 R Pean 10 Seco 32; 4 Leibanc
(Fr) Pots 37; 5 P Liguanov Rus) Rosiono 55; 5
16om (t) Seco 55; 7 G Colombo (t) Beak 150;
8 A Noc' (t) Asics 1-13; 9 G Garma (t) Pots 136;
10 1 Carico Dominguez (Sp) Kalma 122, Leading overall standings: 1 Torico Sir 20mm 5ec;
2 Bezon 1-1ac; 3 Pots 1-23m; 6 Leibenc +37;
5 Colombo +42; 5 Liguanov +53.

Equestrianism Stanwick Ghost, who was ridden by lan Stark at last year's Olympic Garnes and this month's Mitsubishi Badminton Horse Trials, has sustained a leg injury and will probably need to rest for a year. The injury may explain why the horse made five show lumping errors at Bad-

Arnold Laver, president of Sheffield United, died in hospital on Saturday evening, aged 74. He had been suffering from leukaernia. The struggling German First Division side

Her subgening central rins ownsor suc-Hamburg have sacked their trainer, Fe-fix Magath. Hamburg's league form this season has been poor and a dismel 4-0 home defeat to Cologne on Saturday left them in 15th place, one above the

left them in 15th place, one above the relegation zone. DUTCH LEAGUE: Pryencord 3 (fournert 5, 34, Sanchez 19, 42, Van Gestel 65, Van Bonckorst 72) Spunc Roundon 1 (Van der Lean 16). SUNDAY'S LATE REULUS: Spanish Leaguer Evernedure 1 Affreit Bibleo 2 Reel Medird 1 Valladold 0; Deportus Conrana 0 Spuring Gion C. Hercules 0 Valencia 2; Reyo Vallecian 1 Legiones 0; Ovideo 2 Compostels 2: Egypryal 1 Tenerific 0; Roung Samonder 1 Zaregasa 2; Real Socieded 1 Alterion Medird 1 Portogresse Leegue: Belefiche 10 (Section 1) Portogresse Leegue: Belefiche 0; Sacrondor 1 Portogresse Leegue: Belefiche 2; Setublo 1 Fatense 1; Gil Vicentia 2 Rio Ave 2; Braga 0 Mention 0; Benica 1 Lean 0.

Matt Carver, s Walker Cup squad member, was being treated in hospital yestenday after a car crash involving another player. Carver, from Kent, was on his way home from the English Amateur Strokeplay Champlonship at Seumon, Devon, on Sunday night when he and Brett Taylor, who had also been playing in the tournament, colided. Taylor was discharged yesterday but Carver was detained for observation pas sentores owner of MERST: 1 T Horton (Engl. 537,603,66; 2 M Bernbridge (Engl. 520,133,32; 3) Carr (US) 59,508,56; 4 N Reference (Engl. 537,603,66; 2 M Bernbridge (Engl. 537,603,66; 2 M Bernbridge (Engl. 537,603,65; 1) Carr (US) 59,508,50; 4 N Reference (Engl. 537,503,50; 5) Carr (US) 59,508,50; 4 N Reference (Engl. 556,57,31, J Dornsetten (Nett) 55,657,31, WORLD RANGUMERS: 1 6 Norman (Aus.) 10,54pta. aug. 2 T Lemman 10,02; 3 T Woods 9,68; 4 S Blongton (Aus.) 9,29; 6 N Proc (2m) 2,65; 6 C Mongtoners (Engl. 55,67, M Oaste (Depan) 3,15; 9 E Bis (SA) 8,05; 9 M O'Meess 7,90; 10 P Mickelson 6,96. 66; 13 N Faldo.

WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP (Kumamoto, Japan); Croate 26 Morocco 17; Russa 34 China 15; Yu-Hostava 29 Uthuraka 21; Algona 19 Sauci Ara-

vestehuder(Ger) 3. 3/44tr. Minsk (Beld) 1 Egara (Sp) 6. M7th: Grammaners (Gb) 2 Racya (Lib (FHOR Poutrymet (Feb) 3 Samera (Rus) 3 (Pazzymier mon 4-2 pag), flucije and Caluratar are ndigerad to the 2 Dickston, Womens (Famil: HOE (Noth) 1 Berliner 2. 3/4th: Highours 5 (Segove Wessern 3, 677th: State Français 3 Valdelux (Sp) 6; Saulad (Lith) 1 Donchanke (Rus) 3. Lithuarde and Farror one refederated to the 3 Notheric

Motor racing

Audi, the reigning RAC British touring car champions, were yesterday given a chance to improve their poor performances this season by having their weight handloap reduced. The Audishave won only once in eight races while carrying 95kidos of ballast, but the sense organisers have reduced that by 30kg with immediate effect.

FIXTURES

Cricket .

Other sports

BADJKINTON: World Ter (Sudkman Cup) (Glosgow).

Rugby League SUPER LEAGUE Tri meries tournamer New South Waters 23 Queenstand 22.

SUMMER GRAND TOURNAMENT (Tokyo) Ninth day of 15: Chyotaliai (juryo) (won 8, lost 1) of Manourn 15-4); Yamaro 14-51 bt Ognohana (jurionisci (S-4) IX Menatokii (4-5); Aschiyutakia (7-4) tyi Natikachadda (4-5); Katonesukia (5-4) bi Go-you (4-5); Kerlin (5-4) bi Destri (2-7); Harradochi-rra (4-5) bi Kotonesuma (5-4); Higonouri (3-6); Schlashma (3-6); Garyu (4-5) bi Kotone (4-5) Tochisuma (3-6); Asymuraka (6-3); Micocumi (2-7) bi Dejma (3-6); Agyama (3-4) bi Ni-hadochima (3-6); Asymuraka (3-6) bi Tochinou-la (2-7); Hyokuchuzan (2-7) bi Mesoyama (3-6); Tocanoumi (7-2) bi Takatonia (3-6); Missakhmaru (6-3) ti Nino (6-3) bi Motovajaka (3-6); Missakhmaru (6-3)

RETURNS
ST POLIZEN GRAND PROX MEN'S TOURNAMENT
(SE Polizen, Ann) Singles, Ernit round: M Normen (Swe) DK W Schsart (Aus) 6-3 7-5; 1 TurandoINS IX V Species (Aus) 6-4 6-0; T Hyddal (Swe)
IX M Hyd (Aus) 7-5-7 7-6; S Schalben (Nett)
IX T Heroman (GB) 6-4 6-3; P Rother (Mas) IX R
Fromberg (Aus) 7-6 7-6; M Filippin (Glug) DJ JAbert Whole (Sp) 7-6-7-5; T Muster (Aus) DX Grosjean (Fr) 6-3 6-3.

FEDDING ATD DANIMINGS: 1 P Sammer (BS)

TODAY'S NUMBER :

The number of Belarussian weightlifters who were announced yesterday as having failed drug tests on the eve of the European Championships. The squad's coach, double Olympic medallist Alexander Kurlovich, himself tested posifive twice during his career.

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the collers:

Wilkinson's plan to groom national coach

GLENN MOORE

Football Correspondent

After a weekend in which the spotlight on overseas players underlined the urgency of his task, Howard Wilkinson yesterday launched the Foothall Association's crusade to improve the quality of Englishborn footballers.

Wilkinson, the FA's first technical director, issued an amhitious and largely admirable set of proposals which, if carried through, would change the way that English players are devel-oped beyond all recognition. The most eye-catching sug-

gestion is that the next national coach should he identified now and taken on to Glenn Hoddle's staff, probably as Under-21 coach.

The most radical proposal is that the professional clubs should have total responsibility for the development of talented young players from the

In truth neither of these ideas, nor many of the others, are new. Most Continental clubs

Andy Cole and John Scales

were drafted into England's

squad for the summer last

ed striker, will replace Les Fer-

dinand who goes into hospital

on Thursday for an operation

on the groin injury that has ruled him out of the summer

games. Derek Wright, the New-

castle United physiotherapist.

said: "He's been aware for a

while that he had a problem, but

put off doing anything until the

ter who pulled out of the squad

last week. The two players were joining up with the oth-

er squad members at Eng-

land's Cheshire hase last night

hefore today's first training

session ahead of Saturday's

friendly with South Africa at

World Cup tie next week. Cole

may also provide cover for Liv-erpool's Robbie Fowler who is

thought to be about to withdraw

from the squad following his

There was better news on the

terday, with Paul Gascoigne jury.

injury front for Hoddle ves-

England fly to Poland for the

Old Trafford.

nose operation.

Scales provides cover for those as well."

Cole's team-mate Gary Pallis
Liverpool

Cole, the Manchester Unit-

ALAN NIXON

years, while Berti Vogts and Ce-sare Maldini succeeded to their current posts as coaches of Germany and Italy after running the Under-21 sides.

What is new is the belief, held by Wilkinson, that the practical will exists to adopt his "Charter for Quality". The FA's much crit-icised executives are certainly behind him, hut one wonders about the ageing backwoodsmen on the FA Council who may see their influence under threat.

Wilkinson said they should all be happy with the report, hut control of the England Under-15 team is to be taken away from the English Schools FA, while other representative games - run by the ESFA and county FAs will he greatly curtailed.

The aim is that talented young players should play no more than 30 games per year mostly for their club academy

"It is a sea change," Wilkinson said. At the moment the best players play so many games they are sometimes sent home from coaching courses as they are ton tired." Wolves' Stephen

declaring himself fit and ready

for England after his latest tes-

watched Gascoigne play in a henefit for former Newcastle

team-mate Wes Saunders at

Torquay - his last game before

teaming up with the England

squad. Gascoigne's side, which

included Chris Waddle in goal,

won 8-6 with Peter Beardsley

scoring twice against a Torquay

A sell-out 5,770 crowd

timonial appearance.

England call for Cole and Scales

and at youth level. The other flaw - predictably concerns money. Premiership clubs can finance academies hut lower division ones may struggle to staff and equip them property - especially as it will he hard to retain players post-Bosman, There was no mention

Gascoigne.said about his fit-The proposals are still a huge step in the right direction - if ness: "I wouldn't be here if I was injured. I'm relaxed and enjoy-ing myself. I love testimonials the FA Council pass them. The 90 councillors will debate the re-- I can just go out and play. If and of the season."

The Tottenham defender Monday and Thesday I'd play in port at their summer meeting. Before then there will be considerable lobbying as the exec-Kennedy and Watford striker councillors, which has resisted David Connolly are doubtful for all attempts at overhauling their the Republic of Ireland's Group archaic oligarchy, to accept the Eight World Cup qualifier

against Liechtenstein at Lans-It would be a damming in-Mick McCarthy, the Republic manager, will monitor their fitness in today's training session in Duhlin, but is unlikely to name his side until just hefore Connolly has a thigh proh-Iem which ruled him out of Pat Bonner's testimonial on Sunday, in which Kennedy had to be substituted after 64 minutes with a recurrence of a groin in-

have run youth development for Froggatt would agree. He used to play 160 games a year and now suffers from repeated in-All youth coaches are to be

hetter trained and facilities improved. The national school is to close, superceded by similar establishments across the country. A national football centre will be set up with support services dealing with aspects such as the physical and mental welfare of players.

The next national coach

Wilkinson said he had someone in mind - is to be headhunted from January 1998. "Something as important as the national team should not be left in the lurch if the manager ups and aways, as has happened, or the FA dispenses with him," Wilkinson said.

Quite who will be prepared to give up a career in cluh management to work in Glenn Hoddle's shadow is unclear.

The most obvious omission is the absence of a commitment to impose mandatory qualifications for club managers. This is commonplace on the Continent but appears to have met with strong resistance here. Wilkinson said this was a "red herring" adding that just over 50 per cent of Premiership coaches have qualifications. Which means nearly half of them do not. Levels are higher lower in the league

of how this would be overcome.

Coaches at junior levels also need incentives if they are to undertake courses which can be expensive, especially as pay rates are poor or non-existent. The game is awash with money yet Wilkinson was reduced to speaking hopefully of sponsorship.

dictment of these men (and one woman) if they reject Wilkinson's exhaustively researched, well meaning and desperately needed proposals. "This is the higgest, most exciting and satisfying challenge of my career," Wilkinson said. "There is sufficient will to make change possible. This report has tried to be practical. No one should have a serious objection, no one is trying to take anything away from anyhody." We shall see.

Colin Montgomerie chips over a bunker during the Andersen Consulting World Championship at the Buckinghamshire yesterday Photograph; Robert Hallam

Torrance finds form in his favourite format

ANDY FARRELL

reports from Denham

Welcome to May madness on the European tour. This is fill your Footjoys week. Friday sees the start of the

Volvo PGA Championship, with a record £1.1m on offer. Today, the winner of the European qualifier for the Andersen Consulting World Champi-onship will be looking forward to a trip to Arizona where the top prize is \$1m (£625,000). The total purse of \$3,650,000 is the second highest in the world. Last year's qualifier from

these shores was Sam Torrance, who picked up the minimum guarantee of \$300,000 after losing both his matches against Scott Hoch and Hisavuki Sasaki. Torrance has not won much since, but, canny pro that he is, he has run into form at the right

moment. In yesterday's first round, Torrance beat Ian Woosnam 4 and 3. Today he plays Colin Montgomeric, the man he beat 3 and 1 in last year's final, in an all tartan semi-final. Woosnam did not drop a shot to par round the Buckinghamshire course, but suffered under the matchplay format.

Torrance was one up at the turn and then holed a wedge shot from 69 yards for an eagle at the 11th. He then holed a long putt from 44 yards at the

next and another birdie at the 13th put the result heyond doubt. "This is a game of highs and lows and most of this year has been a low." Torrance said.

"I feel better and more confident now. I feel I am back in the swing of things and it is all due to hard effort. I always felt it would just come back and I

love matchplay golf."

The format is the game's version of head-to-head combat and is all the more interesting for that. In 1984, a young Spaniard holed a wedge shot and chipped in twice to beat a young Scot in the final of the British Amateur Championship. Montgomerie got his revenge yesterday by heating a bogey-free Olazabal 2 and I without holing a putt of any con-

sequence.
"My putting has gone to a new level," Monty said. "I didn't know it could go any lower.' The rest of his game, he knew, had to be of a higher order and it was. Always ahead from the first, he hit a six-iron to three feet at the 14th and a five-iron to four feet at the 16th.

This was not really revenge," he added. "It's just great that Jose Maria is back and playing competitively at the highest level. I have had an admiration for him ever since 1984." The previous evening had been spent watching Tiger Woods' latest triumph in America. "He seems to will the ball into the hole," the awed Montgomerie said.

"His desire is unbelievable. His passion takes over on the hack nine. We all accept that he's the best player in the world right now and we have to improve beyond what we thought was necessary to compete."

Torrance had placed a small wager on himself. Montgomerie and Costantino Rocca progressing into the next round. The Italian kept him waiting to collect his money as Jesper Parnevik, on his first appearance in Europe this year, escaped from three down with five to play to take the match into extra holes.

At the second of these, which was actually the first. Parnevik drove into the water and could not beat Rocca's birdic, Rocca plays Darren Clarke, who was a prolific winner in matchplay events as an amateur in Ireland. A prospective Ryder Cup rookic later this year, where he could be a formidable fourball partner, Clarke made five hirdies in beating Bernhard Langer 2 and 1.

ANDERSON CONSULTING WORLD CHAMPI-NOSHIP (The Bucking)mentahire, Decharat; Fing-round: C Montgamere (GB) or J Marie Distable (Sp) 2 and 1; 5 Tomance (GB) or I videonom (GB) 4 and 3; D Clarke (GB) or B Langer (Ge) 2 and 1; C Pocca nu br J Parmenk (Swe) et 20th.

Sam Torrance, Bernhard Langer and Philip Walton are free to go on using broomhandle putters until at least the year 2000. The Royal and Ancient Club has confirmed it is examining the use of long putters, but changes to the rules of the game are made only every four years and the next will be in the new millennium

first outing **Rugby Union** tour of Argentina. Martin Johnson, the captain, CHRIS HEWETT reports from Durban and his fellow forwards bore the

Grayson will

miss Lions

Rather like John McEnroe's left. arm or a darts champion's beer gut, Paul Grayson's right leg is fundamental to his sporting art. Unfortunately for the goalkicker from Northampton, that appendage is giving him no end of hassle; unfortunately for the Lions, he cannot be considered for the opening salvo of the South African tour against

Grayson sat out all the meaningful sections of yesterday's first-up training session at King's Park, a two-hour stint sweated out in temperatures in the high seventies. LIt's not going to get much hotter, apparently," Ian McGeechan, the senior coach, said without the slightest degree of conviction. Most of the Lions went straight from training field to swimming pool without passing Go. McGeechan was careful not

Eastern Province on Saturday.

to sound too many alarm bells on the subject of Grayson, one of only two specialist goalkickers in a squad decidedly lacking in marksmanship, and the player himself insisted that the muscle strain at the top of his thigh was "almost right". But the unpalatable fact remains that England's first-choice outsidehalf has not laced up his boots in anger since the middle of March, hardly ideal preparation for the rigours of an eightweek jaunt around Bokkedom.

"Paul's problem is not directly connected with the injury that kept him on the sidelines towards the end of the domestic season, although it's in the same area of his kicking leg," said McGeechan, who also saw Jeremy Davison, the Irish lock, pick up a neck strain and Alan Tait, the Scottish centre, withdraw from the session with a viral infection. "We don't want to jeopto do too much too soon."

ardise his recovery by asking him Given McGecchan's declared policy of giving all 35 players a start in the opening three matches - the games with Border and Western Province follow this weekend's rumble at the Boet Erasmus in Port Elizabeth - Grayson will he under

brunt of yesterday's session, mercilessly administered by the Ayatollah of scrummaging, Jim Telfer. The Scottish coach could watch set-piece rehearsals all day long and seemed perfectly prepared to on this occasion as his charges pitted their strength against the latest in designer scrum machines. And how de he rate the session on a scale one to 10? "Oh, about three. God help the Lions when he asks for some serious effort.

Privately, the Lions believe they can hold, perhaps even dominate, the very best tight units the South Africans have to offer. Their main concern, outside of injuries, is how the hig matches will be refereed. To that end. McGeechan lunched yesterday with two of the Springboks' most highly regarded officials, Steve Strydom and Frik Burger, in an effort to get on the inside track.

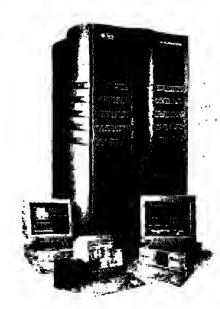
We want to play positively hut with some control and if we end up conceding strings of penalties, it won't do us any good and neither will it bene-fit the game as a whole," be said.
"I'm not being defensive about this, but realistic. We need to understand the philosophy of: referees in this part of the world." McGeechan will not have forgotten the experience of Christchurch 1993, when his Lions side lost the opening Text of a three-match series with New Zealand as a direct result of a myopic interpretation of the ruck law by the Australian Bri-

an Kinsey. McGeechan learned somes thing else in New Zealand that year; that talented players perform better off the leash than on it. "We will not discourage anyone from being positive on. this trip. I don't want the players to feel they are in a strait-jacket, indeed. I want to see us develop a more instinctive style than we managed four years ago. But having said that, I've never been in favour of loose rugby. To play with instinct, you also have to play with selfdiscipline. Those will be the watchwords on this tour."

Richmond have signed Barry Williams, the Wales and Lithe time the Lions reach Cape ons hooker, from Neath to Town on Thursday week. If he replace Brian Moore, who refails. Mike Catt can expect to be tired at the end of the season.

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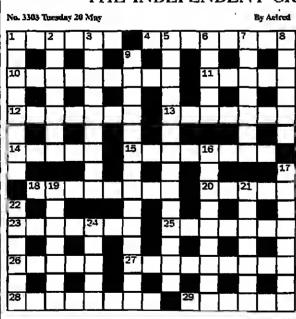
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- ACROSS 1 A way to unknown want of
- adventure (8) 10 Cause of one's rather too burning an interest in things? (9)
- 11 Search round a familiar place (5) 12 One keeps turning into
- ciful realm (7) 14 Spell of work in square with
- shade (5) 15 Weishman's question on Irish Independence, it's a hit rum? (8)
- 18 Uganda's English dive pro- 3 duced brandy (3.2.3) 20 In French said to indicate more of the same? (5)
- 23 Lunch served round northeast France after passing concern (6) through it? (7)
 4 Get away to secure a day of 25 Plan of diplomacy by one
 - joining Civil Service (7) 26 Takine a chance after day's passed, showing effect of cold? [5] 27 Fat cat maybe in favour of
- getting healthy always (9) Time for turnips said to have plant (71 low water variation? (4,4)
 13 Noble state of party in fan29 Bedfordshire's the place for accommodation (3-3) DOWN
 - One American in computer firm gets ovation (S) A leading monk gets one
 - Clumsy bad actor's got hit? Perhaps exit in way coach went? (5,9)
- A British house's resistance to hate (5) Separate in the manner shown below? (7) Luy to rest poor Eton doc-
- tor (6) Weedy film with insufficient
- exposure? (14) Put right a French male on December night, about one 17 Play violin with brio after
- one's gone to front of boat 19 A chimney in Edinburgh in
- a hit of commoum (7) 21 Priest upset about conservative muscle (7)
- into a kind of argument (1,6) 22 Fellow leaves partisan group's movement (6) 24 Time to close? (5)

Schumacher's football debut

Motor racing

The old story about the football team being so short of players that their coach driver had to turn out has been given a new

a new strip, a Swiss Third Division football club might have thought they were pushing their luck asking Michael Schumacher's manager for a donation, but they got more than they bargained for. Rather than money, they picked up a new player.

Schumacher, who naturally fancies himself up front, asked Aubonne for a game and the former Formula One world champion made his debut leading the attack on Sunday.

Despite this efforts to drive them on in the first half, their In their drive to raise funds for new centre-forward had to endure a rare taste of defeat. Aubonne, apparently the Minardi of Alpine football, went down 6-1 to Genolier-Begnins. Schumacher, who no doubt will be nicknamed Prancing Horse, ran out of fuel at half-distance, "His attitude was very good,"

Aubonne's coach, Michael von Tobler, told the daily Le Main. "But it's difficult to judge his ability after just one half." He had only trained three times, von Tobler said, and "does not know the other players very well yet." Like his rivals on the grand prix circuit, they will probably recognise him best from behind.

Aubonne hope Schumacher, who lives near Lake Geneva, will be able to play for them every other Sunday, but his employers at Ferrari might not be too keen on their world title contender risking being injured.